

Jordan Times

An independent newspaper published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate
جوردان تايمز جريدة مستقلة منشورة من قبل نقابة الصحفيين الأردنيين

Trident-2 explodes in flight

CAPE CANAVERAL (R) — An unarmed Trident-2 missile exploded in flight Tuesday afternoon after it was fired from a submerged U.S. submarine off Cape Canaveral in the weapon's first test at sea, a military spokesman said. The three-stage missile exploded four seconds after launch from the nuclear submarine USS Tennessee, said Anne McCauley, a spokeswoman at Patrick Air Force Base near here. The missile has been test-fired 19 times on land and was scheduled for at least nine tests at sea before becoming operational. "It self-destructed. The exact cause of the malfunction can't be determined until telemetry data is studied," McCauley said. The missile had cleared the water about 75 kilometres east of Cape Canaveral by the time of the explosion and did not threaten the submerged submarine, she said. The U.S. Navy plans to begin deploying the Trident-2 in December. British nuclear submarines are also scheduled to eventually carry the long-range ballistic missile, defence officials say. The Trident-2, which carried a load of dummy warheads during the test, will be among the most powerful and accurate nuclear weapons ever developed, officials said.

Volume 14 Number 4042

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1989, SHABAAN 15, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Al Hussein attends celebration marking Battle of Karameh

KARAMEH (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces Tuesday attended the major celebration held at the Martyr's Monument in Shouneh to mark the Karameh Battle. The celebration was attended by Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb and his assistants, the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force, Armed Forces Inspector General and senior Armed Forces officers. On the occasion, Abu Taleb sent a congratulatory cable to King Hussein in which he voiced the Jordanian Armed Forces' pride in his wise leadership and pledged their allegiance and loyalty to the Hashemite throne.

Abu Taleb also attended the celebration held at the Yarmouk University to mark the Karameh Battle.

He delegated his assistant to attend the cross-country race, organised by the Yarmouk University and Jordan University of Science and Technology.

The race started from the city of Karamah and ended at the Martyr's Monument in South Shouneh.

Similar celebrations were held in various parts of the country. The Ministry of Education schools in Amman, Balqa, Zarqa and Ma'an held special celebra-



His Majesty King Hussein, accompanied by Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb and high ranking officers, Tuesday arrives to attend the celebrations on the occasion of the anniversary of the Karameh Battle.

tions, during which speeches, outlining the importance of this event, were delivered. Also on this occasion, folkloric dances performed and a number of exhibitions, containing items describing the importance of this battle, were held.

Mine blast kills 3 UNIFIL soldiers

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Three Irish U.N. peacekeeping soldiers were killed Tuesday when their vehicle ran over a landmine in South Lebanon, an Irish officer said.

He said they were killed near the village of Brashiet on the edge of Israel's self-declared "security zone."

This brought to 30 the number of Irish soldiers killed since the nine-nation U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) deployed in South Lebanon in 1978.

A 22-year-old Irish soldier was shot dead by militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia Feb. 24.

In occupied Jerusalem, a U.N. official at headquarters in Naqura told Reuters by telephone the soldiers drove their truck over the mine while on a routine patrol.

"We don't know who planted the mine or why. We have sent out a team to investigate," said Patrick Keogh, operations officer for UNIFIL.

He said two of the soldiers died immediately and a third was pronounced dead on arrival at a U.N. hospital.

The Irish officer in South Lebanon, who refused to be identified, said: "The Irish soldiers were targeted in this ambush. Israeli soldiers and their local militiamen of the South Lebanon Army do not pass on this road."

Brashiet is a transit route for commandos who sneak into the security zone to attack Israeli and SLA forces.

At least 18 dead in Brazil plane crash

SAO PAULO (R) — At least 18 people were killed when a Boeing 707 cargo plane exploded in mid-air Tuesday and crashed into a slum near Sao Paulo International Airport, an airport official said.

There were unconfirmed reports that dozens of slum dwellers, perhaps as many as 100, were injured in the crash.

Television reports said at least 50 people were being treated, mainly for burns, at nearby hospitals.

Airport spokeswoman Lucia Ferreira told Reuters the plane's three crew members and at least seven people on the ground were killed in the crash.

The Transbrasil plane had radioed the control tower requesting an emergency landing before it exploded, she said.

The plane was on a flight from the Amazon city of Manaus to Sao Paulo.

Ferreira said she had no information as to why the pilot had requested an emergency landing. Visibility at the time of the crash — just before noon local (1500 GMT) — was perfect.

4 Palestinians injured in West Bank protests

Israelis clamp curfew in Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli troops in occupied Gaza City clamped a curfew on some 7,000 residents Tuesday, cut off water and electricity, and threatened stiffer measures if a missing army rifle was not returned.

An automatic rifle was lost Monday night when two army reservists were injured during clashes with stone-throwers in the city's Rimal district. Military authorities are convinced Palestinians took the gun.

Residents said the curfew on Rimal and part of the Sabra district took effect Tuesday morning after troops ordered all males aged from nine to 60 years to military headquarters and warned them of harsh consequences if the gun was not returned.

A curfew placed on the Gaza Strip's Khan Yunis Refugee Camp when a weapon was lost there last Wednesday remained in force, and local leaders said army officers told them the gun would have to be produced before the curfew was lifted.

The army had no immediate comment on the reports. A Palestinian source in Gaza said the apparent theft of the rifles should not be seen as a sign

that Arab protesters were preparing to escalate their armed attacks against Israeli targets but rather as acts of bravado by youthful protesters.

"If the opportunity presents itself they'll take whatever they can as a trophy, to show how close they got to the army. They take helmets, batons and on these occasions guns," he said.

More than half the strip's 650,000 Arab residents were confined to their homes Tuesday by curfews imposed during earlier unrest.

Arab protesters have repeatedly clashed with troops and paramilitary border police since a lull in the violence was shattered Saturday with the killing of three Arab protesters at a Gaza City mosque.

The killings prompted a three-day general strike in the occupied territory and a wave of protest in which two more residents of the Gaza Strip were shot dead.

The commander of the army unit involved in the mosque shootings was removed from his post. Troops Tuesday shot and wounded the brother of one of those killed Saturday. Medical staff at Gaza City's Shifa Hospital said the man, Riad Al Sharif, was in serious condition with gunshot wounds to the head and stomach.

Israel Radio said soldiers shot him when he attacked them with an axe. The army was checking the reports.

At least 409 Palestinians and 16 Israelis have died in the 15-month-old Arab uprising against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Witnesses reported unrest throughout the Strip with blazing tyres and rocks barricading roads in almost all populated areas.

In the West Bank, troops shot and wounded an Arab protester in the village of Sa'id and injured three residents of the Al-Amari Palestinian refugee camp, the youngest 12 years old, Palestinian sources said.

In neighbouring Ramallah, Jewish settlers marked the annual festival of Purim by shouting anti-Arab slogans as they paraded through the town.

Border police in East Jerusalem's busy Salahuddin Street

Israeli stabbed in Tel Aviv

In Tel Aviv, a Palestinian from the occupied Gaza Strip stabbed an Israeli doctor to death in central Tel Aviv Tuesday and wounded two other men before police shot and captured him.

Police at the scene said Abdul Rahman Zabur Ibn Mohammad, 28, had a criminal record for burglaries in the Tel Aviv area but they believed the attacks had a Palestinian nationalist motive.

"We presume it was politically motivated and premeditated because he had two knives on him," one detective said. "He earlier tried to gain entrance to a commercial office and a flat but fortunately the occupants refused to open."

Police identified the dead man as Dr. Kurt Moshe Shalinger, 73, of Tel Aviv.

Bush to meet Mideast leaders

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush will explore Middle East peace prospects in White House talks with the leaders of Egypt and Israel over the next six weeks, the White House said Tuesday.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will meet Bush on April 3 and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will meet him on April 6.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Bush would seek the views of the leaders on the best way to advance the peace process and made clear Bush would not unveil a new American initiative at that time.

"We are confident that the forthcoming visits will materially contribute to diplomatic progress toward peace in the Middle East," Fitzwater said.

"The president is committed to moving the peace process forward and anticipates a useful exchange of views with key regional leaders... He's not presenting a new initiative."

Fitzwater noted that Bush held discussions with Mubarak and His Majesty King Hussein in Tokyo last month when the three were there for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito. Israeli President Chaim Herzog also had talks with Bush at that time.

U.S. officials have been urging Israel, its Arab neighbours and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to engage in a variety of small tension-easing steps in a bid to improve the climate for peace talks.

Among the steps urged by Washington in private talks would be the release of Palestinian political prisoners held by Israel, and a reduction in PLO attacks on Israeli military positions.

Fitzwater said Bush was likely to urge similar gestures in his talks, but his major purpose was to hear the views of the Middle East leaders.

"I would expect the president to discuss with these leaders the feelings in their countries about what progress can be made and what course should be taken. That (the discussions) undoubtedly will include an international conference, the role of the Palestinians," Fitzwater said.

He declined to say whether Bush would urge Shamir to reconsider his refusal to hold talks with the PLO.

"At this point we simply want to meet with Prime Minister Shamir and talk about the situation and see what his feelings are. We wouldn't try to predict any conclusions at this point... I simply don't want to speculate," Fitzwater said.

PLO sees greatly improved atmosphere for talks with U.S.

TUNIS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), preparing for a second round of talks with the United States Wednesday, says it sees a greatly improved atmosphere after Washington's latest moves in the Middle East.

The PLO, confident that a dispute over terrorism is out of the way, will concentrate on persuading Washington to put its weight behind plans to hold an international conference on Middle East peace, spokesman Ahmad Abdul Rahman said Tuesday.

"There has been a significant change in the U.S. position and the atmosphere is much better... there are no controversial issues between us and the Americans," he told Reuters.

The PLO and Washington were in agreement on the idea of peace through Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, while Israel stood alone in opposing this, he said.

On the shift in U.S. policy, he cited Secretary of State James Baker's recent statement that Israel might have to talk to the PLO and his refusal to accept Israel's point of view on Palestinian raids from South Lebanon.

"This is progress and we welcome it," he added.

Israel said the raids violated PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's pledge to renounce "terrorism" and asked Washington to break off dialogue with the PLO. Arafat's pledge, made in Geneva last December, was one of the U.S. conditions for starting the talks.

Abdul Rahman said the meeting Wednesday, which ends a three-month break in the dialogue while the new Bush administration settled into office, should move on to discuss practical steps towards a rapid settlement.

"We will brief the Americans on our scenario — a preparatory committee (for the conference), the role of the U.N. Security Council, Israeli withdrawal and the role of U.N. forces during the interim period," he said.

Israel rejects the international conference idea and the United States, afraid it might have to defend Israel alone in such a forum, says it prefers direct negotiations.

After the first PLO-U.S. meeting in Tunis in December, the preference for a conference or direct talks was the main difference in public statements by the two delegation heads — U.S. Ambassador Robert Pelletreau and PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo.

The PLO, apparently swept along by events, has since modified its position, and Abdul Rahman said the organisation welcomed informal contacts with Israelis, including members of the government, ahead of the conference.

Some Palestinian leaders have gone further, saying these contacts could negotiate a settlement and the conference need only provide U.N. guarantees for an eventual treaty.

The spokesman said the PLO would reject any U.S. request to tone down the intifada in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The PLO sees the 15-month-old uprising as its only weapon to keep up the pressure for a change in Israeli policy.

"There can be no discussion of

the intifada until Israel agrees to withdraw and accepts the Palestinian right to self-determination and statehood," he said.

U.S. officials have said they would put such a request to the PLO, in parallel with a request to Israel to improve the atmosphere in the occupied territories by reopening schools, releasing prisoners and limited detentions without trial.

Abdul Rahman said the PLO was treating the meeting as part of preparations for Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington next month, which the PLO hopes will turn into a showdown between the United States and Israel.

"(President) Bush has said the Israelis should provide a peace plan, so the pressure's on Shamir. He has less and less room to manoeuvre, he's on the defensive and isolated," he said.

The PLO has trimmed back its team in the talks from four men to three, dropping Executive Committee member Abdullah Hourani. The other two are PLO representative in Tunis Hakam Balawi and the director general of the PLO Political Department, Abdul Latif Abu Hijleh, usually known as Abu Jaafar.

Pelletreau, designated by the State Department as the sole channel for communications with the PLO, will be accompanied by embassy political officer Edmund Hull.

The Tunisian hosts, for security reasons, have not yet said where the talks will take place. The first round was held in a government guesthouse in the northern suburb of Carthage.

Officials confirm intelligence study says Israel must talk to PLO

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Officials Tuesday confirmed an Israeli intelligence report presented to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government that concluded there were no Palestinians who could negotiate peace with Israel other than the PLO.

The assessment by army and other intelligence branches also said the 15-month-old Palestinian uprising could go on indefinitely unless such a political solution to the Palestinian problem is reached, said the officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The officials said the assessment also saw a possibility of the rebellion becoming more violent, with the use of weapons by Palestinians who have relied so far on stones and firebombs.

The comments by several government sources follow accounts in Israeli newspapers, saying the new intelligence report judges the PLO has undergone a substantive change and wants "a realistic political settlement."

Presented to both the cabinet and parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, the intelligence report predicted the United States would maintain its dialogue with the PLO despite pressure from Israel to halt the talks, the officials told the Associated Press.

Shamir angrily denied Tuesday that an intelligence report to the cabinet said Israel had no choice but to talk to the PLO.

"All was a lie. All included in this information was a lie," Shamir said of near-identical reports in all leading Israeli newspapers.

Publication of the report stirred accusations from right wing supporters of Shamir that it had been leaked by the rival Labour Party faction of the government.

Speaking before a conference of world Jewish leaders here Monday, Shamir repeated his refusal to talk to the PLO. But at the same time, a Labour Party leader, Yossi Beilin, called on the government to consider talking to the PLO and suggested Labour

should quit the coalition unless talks took place.

Tuesday, Shamir told the meeting of 1,100 Jews from 30 countries that his government was trying to find other Arabs to join in peace talks.

"We have not slackened our search for more partners for peace. Arab partners whose willingness and yearning for peace with us is even remotely close to ours," he said.

Some speakers at the conference on Jewish solidarity with Israel, called to strengthen Shamir's hand ahead of a visit to Washington next month, lashed out at media coverage of the 15-month-old Palestinian revolt.

There were few dissenting voices, although several Jewish intellectuals stayed away from the conference.

Professor Irwin Cotler of McGill University, speaking for the Canadian delegation, said Israel ignored human rights at its peril.



A Lebanese fills a garbage bag with the debris of his shelled home in west Beirut after the latest artillery and rocket fire by rival factions in the 14-year-old civil war.

Sudan rebels shell Juba

Equatorial capital has food for two weeks

KAMPALA (Agencies) — Rebels in southern Sudan shelled the government-held town of Juba Saturday, killing 10 people, relief agency sources said Tuesday.

The artillery attack by the rebel Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) is the second in four weeks. On Feb. 20, SPLA shells killed 16 civilians.

The rebels, who are within a short walk from Juba, have also cut all its supply routes except for daily airlifts of food from Uganda, Kenya and northern Sudan.

Juba, the regional capital of southern Sudan, is one of the few towns in the region still held by the government. Its normal population of 100,000 has been swollen by an influx of 174,000 refugees from the fighting.

The SPLA has captured seven towns since late February. They seized the Nile River town of Mongalla, just 50 kilometres north of Juba last Friday.

Relief sources said that for the past few days about 500 refugees a day have been crossing into the extreme north west of Uganda from southern Sudan.

They started arriving after SPLA troops shelled the small government garrison of Kajo-Kaji, about halfway between the border towns of Kaya and Nimule. The SPLA captured

Nimule on March 3, the sources added.

There are now more than 30,000 Sudanese refugees in Uganda, more than 20,000 arrived in the past two weeks.

The SPLA has been fighting since 1983 against what it sees as the domination of Sudan's mainly Christian and animist south by the Muslim north.

Juba has food sufficient for two weeks, the Sudanese Commissioner for Relief and Rehabilitation, Dr. Al Haj Al Tayeb said Monday.

"There is 800 tonnes stored relief material in Juba sufficient for two weeks," Tayeb said in a press statement.

"In addition, there is some 2,500 tonnes being currently flown from Nairobi (the Kenyan capital) to Juba," Tayeb said.

"This quantity will suffice the town for another ten weeks," he said.

Tayeb was apparently referring to local press reports that said the food situation in Juba is very critical and that thousands of people are facing starvation.

"These reports are absolutely

baseless," he said.

In Rome, the World Food Programme (WFP) issued an appeal to donors Monday for \$21.7 million to support emergency food relief in Sudan.

The appeal follows meetings in Khartoum earlier this month between officials from the Sudanese government, the United Nations and relief agencies.

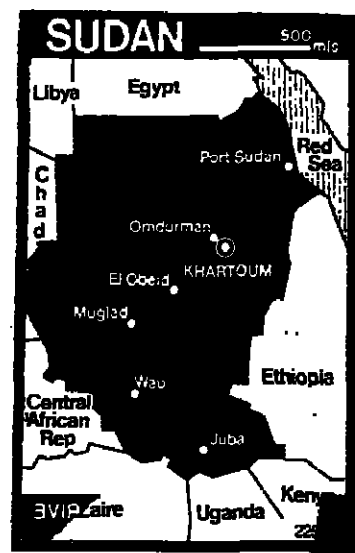
The Rome-based agency said relief efforts are trying to avoid a repetition of last year, when as many as a quarter of a million people died from starvation after being isolated in villages cut off in the country's six-year civil war.

Emergency funds are needed to ensure immediate delivery of food and equipment, particularly to inhabitants of Sudan's war-ravaged south, the agency said.

The U.N. food relief agency said that about 160,000 tonnes of food and supplies must be delivered before May.

Meanwhile a new Sudanese government being formed under pressure from disgruntled army generals will be sworn in Wednesday, state television reported.

It said Monday that Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi will announce the new government, in which the Umma Party and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) would be the main part-



ners, at a news conference and that the cabinet would be sworn in later Wednesday.

The television was quoting a joint statement issued by Umma and the DUP, Sudan's largest political parties, after more than six hours of talks between Mahdi and DUP leader Mohammad Osman Al Mirghani.

Army generals, exasperated by the civil war in south Sudan, told Mahdi on Feb. 20 he should form a new, broad-based government.

They complained about what they called bickering between political parties and lack of sufficient support for the poorly equipped army.

They also told Mahdi he should either boost defence spending or seek a peaceful settlement to the war with the SPLA.

'Afghan troops clear Kabul-Jalalabad road'

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Afghan troops have cleared the road linking Kabul to Jalalabad, enabling convoys of food and ammunition to reach the besieged city, Radio Moscow said Tuesday.

It quoted Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil but did not say where or when he had made his announcement. The report said convoys had now reached troops who have been defending the city for more than two weeks against a large rebel force.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfilov told reporters in Moscow Monday that the rebel onslaught on Jalalabad had been considerably scaled down.

He said Afghan troops were holding their positions around the eastern city and air force and artillery attacks had killed 1,500 insurgents in the previous three days. Soviet television last weekend estimated the size of the force at 20,000 and said a quarter of them were Pakistanis.

Pakistan has denied previous Afghan charges that its troops are helping Western-backed rebels.

The rebels want to set up in Jalalabad the provisional government they established last month at a meeting in Pakistan.

The Soviet News Agency (TASS) reported Afghan President Najibullah, in a television appearance Monday marking the Afghan New Year, as saying rebels were "now storming Jalalabad, raining down missiles, mines and shells on the city."

He renewed charges that Pakistan was arming the opposition and said the rebels had failed to heed all peace gestures from the Kabul authorities.

TASS also said fighting was worsening near the southern city

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

EC envoys return to Iran

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Community (EC) nations agreed Monday to allow each of the 12 countries to send their ambassadors back to Iran, but let stand a ban on high-level visits to Iran, British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said. The EC nations recalled their envoys Feb. 20 to protest Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's death threat, issued a week earlier, against Salman Rushdie, the British author of "The Satanic Verses." Britain closed its Tehran mission altogether. Howe said Britain would not reopen its mission. "There is no change in our own position," The EC foreign ministers, at a regular monthly meeting here, agreed Monday to let each of the 12 community countries decide to send their envoys back to Tehran.

Leaders urge U.S. to end Mideast conflict

ABU DHABI (AP) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim and United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan Monday urged U.S. President George Bush's new administration to achieve peace in the Middle East. The two leaders also reviewed international and regional developments during a private meeting, an official source said. "The two leaders urged the new U.S. administration to move seriously and honestly to shoulder its responsibility for working on achieving peace in the region," said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Group urges release of Belgian hostage

BEIRUT (R) — A Norwegian aid group urged Lebanese leaders Monday to work for the freedom of kidnapped Belgian doctor Jan Cools held hostage in Lebanon for 10 months. "We appeal to all the good forces in Lebanon to help us in our efforts to have Jan Cools released," said a statement by the NORWAC group, issued in west Beirut. Cools disappeared May last year near the Palestinian Rashid refugee camp in the southern Lebanese port of Tyre. A previously unknown group called "The Soldiers of Peace" said it had seized Cools, who worked for NORWAC, and accused him of being "a spy working for the Israeli intelligence service Mossad."

Kahane backers set fire to home

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Jewish militants who claimed to support anti-Arab leader Rabbi Meir Kahane set fire before dawn Monday to the front door of an outgoing mayor's home, Israeli Radio reported. No one was injured in the attack, which was the third of its kind in the last five days. Dov Tavori, the outgoing mayor of the small town of Petah Tikva near Tel Aviv, said his door was burned down before dawn Monday. He said he discovered the damage at about 2 a.m. when police came to alert him. The radio said police were tipped off after an anonymous telephone caller contacted the mass-circulation Yediot Ahronot newspaper and said: "We have set fire to Dov Tavori's house and car. We identify with Kahane."

2 killed in Turkey mine

ANKARA (R) — Two coal miners were killed and one was seriously injured in a cave-in at a mine near the black sea city of Zonguldak, the Anatolian news agency said Tuesday. The collapse occurred 400 metres below ground. At least six other miners have been killed in cave-ins and gas explosions in Turkey in the last year.

Tunisia honours Bourguiba rival

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali Monday awarded the country's highest decoration to his predecessor's most prominent opponent. Salah Ibn Youssef, who fled Tunisia in 1956 because of policy differences with former President Habib Bourguiba, was shot dead in Frankfurt in 1961, apparently by people acting on instructions from Tunis. He received the order of the independence posthumously at a ceremony marking the 33rd anniversary of Tunisian independence. Ibn Youssef, originally one of Bourguiba's chief lieutenants in the Neo-Destour Party in the 1940s and 1950s, was sentenced to death in absentia in 1958 for bringing arms into Tunisia from Libya and plotting to overthrow Bourguiba's government.

Khomeini admits carnal desires

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini acknowledged Monday that he sometimes failed in the fight against carnal desire. In a speech marking the start of the Iranian new year Tuesday, the 87-year-old ayatollah said: "I hope the Iranian nation and other Muslims in the world will transform themselves so they can work for the sake of God and not for their own victory or their carnal desires." "In his lifetime, man is afflicted with carnal desires. He needs self-discipline. And I, as the speaker of these words, have not succeeded in this task," the Iranian News Agency IRNA quoted him as saying.

Turkish embassy in Beirut shelled

ANKARA (R) — The Turkish embassy building in Beirut was hit by a shell Monday which caused some damage but no casualties, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. "Parts of the embassy's garden wall and an adjacent gardener's cottage were damaged by a shell but so far we have had no reports of any casualties," a ministry spokesman said.

Israel to stop submarine order

TEL AVIV (R) — Army chief of staff Dan Shomron wants to cancel an Israeli navy order for two West German submarines that were to be among the state's main combat vessels for the 1990s, Israel Radio said Tuesday. There was no immediate comment from the armed forces but defence sources said the proposed cut was apparently for budget reasons. Outgoing navy commander Rear Admiral Avraham Ben Shoshan said last month that the combination of new submarines and missile boats was the absolute minimum the navy needed.

The British Council

BRITISH HIGHER EDUCATION WEEK

17 - 24 March 1989

ITINERARY

Sat JORDAN UNIVERSITY
18
Sun YARMOUK UNIVERSITY
19
Mon JORDAN UNIVERSITY OF
20 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Tues MU'TAH UNIVERSITY
21

For further information, please contact the Public Relations Office or the Deanship of Student Affairs at each University.

Thurs BRITISH COUNCIL
23 Open Day (2 - 7 p.m.)

Representatives from the following institutions will be available to answer questions:

University of Aberdeen
Bolton Institute of Higher Education
University of Glasgow
University of Kent
University of Nottingham
Trent Polytechnic

* EXHIBITION of higher education materials and how to study in Britain

* INFORMATION on pre-university courses, undergraduate & postgraduate degrees

* COUNSELLING for those interested in studying in Britain

For more information please contact:-
Tel: 636147/8, 624686, 638194

ALL ARE WELCOME

أسبوع التعليم العالي البريطاني

17 - 24 مارس 1989

الجامعة الأردنية

جامعة اليرموك

Aberdeen

جامعة العلوم والتكنولوجيا الأردنية

Glasgow

جامعة مؤتاه

لزيادة من المعلومات الرجاء الاتصال بإدارة العلاقات العامة أو عمادة شؤون الطلبة في كل من الجامعات.

الخميس المجلس الثقافي البريطاني يوم مفتوح للقاء الطلبة مع ممثلي المؤسسات التعليمية البريطانية (٧ - ٢ مساءً)

لزيادة من المعلومات الرجاء الاتصال بالمجلس الثقافي البريطاني

تلفون: ٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

٦٣٦٤٧/٨، ٦٢٤٦٨٦

DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

17:30 Koran

18:00 Programme review

18:15 Children's programmes

18:30 Programme on plants

18:45 Out of World

19:00 News summary in Arabic

19:15 Cairo News Message

19:30 Arabic series

19:45 Local programme

20:00 Common mistakes

20:15 Programme review

20:30 News in Arabic

20:45 Arabic series

21:00 Varieties programme

21:15 News summary in Arabic

21:30 News summary in Arabic

21:45 Programme (cont.)

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 French varieties

18:00 News in French

18:15 Anjourni' bni en Jordanie

18:30 News in Hebrew

18:45 News in Arabic

18:55 Life with Lucy

19:05 Documentary

19:15 News in English

19:25 The Man Who Lived a Day

19:35 Prayer Times

19:45 Prayer Times

19:55 Prayer Times

20:05 Prayer Times

20:15 Prayer Times

20:25 Prayer Times

20:35 Prayer Times

20:45 Prayer Times

20:55 Prayer Times

21:05 Prayer Times

21:15 Prayer Times

21:25 Prayer Times

21:35 Prayer Times

21:45 Prayer Times

21:55 Prayer Times

22:05 Prayer Times

22:15 Prayer Times

22:25 Prayer Times

22:35 Prayer Times

22:45 Prayer Times

22:55 Prayer Times

23:05 Prayer Times

23:15 Prayer Times

23:25 Prayer Times

23:35 Prayer Times

23:45 Prayer Times

23:55 Prayer Times

00:05 Prayer Times

00:15 Prayer Times

00:25 Prayer Times

00:35 Prayer Times

00:45 Prayer Times

00:55 Prayer Times

01:05 Prayer Times

01:15 Prayer Times

01:25 Prayer Times

01:35 Prayer Times

01:45 Prayer Times

01:55 Prayer Times

02:05 Prayer Times

02:15 Prayer Times

02:25 Prayer Times

02:35 Prayer Times

02:45 Prayer Times

02:55 Prayer Times

03:05 Prayer Times

03:15 Prayer Times

03:25 Prayer Times

03:35 Prayer Times

03:45 Prayer Times

03:55 Prayer Times

04:05 Prayer Times

04:15 Prayer Times

04:25 Prayer Times

04:35 Prayer Times

04:45 Prayer Times

04:55 Prayer Times

05:05 Prayer Times

05:15 Prayer Times

05:25 Prayer Times

05:35 Prayer Times

05:45 Prayer Times

05:55 Prayer Times

06:05 Prayer Times

06:15 Prayer Times

06:25 Prayer Times

06:35 Prayer Times

06:45 Prayer Times

06:55 Prayer Times

07:05 Prayer Times

07:15 Prayer Times

07:25 Prayer Times

07:35 Prayer Times

07:45 Prayer Times

07:55 Prayer Times

08:05 Prayer Times

08:15 Prayer Times

08:25 Prayer Times

08:35 Prayer Times

08:45 Prayer Times

08:55 Prayer Times

09:05 Prayer Times

09:15 Prayer Times



HRH Princess Basma

Save the Children holds annual bazaar

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Save the Children Fund held its annual charity bazaar at the Nuzha Community Centre Tuesday under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairperson of the fund's executive committee.

On display for three days are different types of food, child clothing, knitted, artificial flowers and traditional costumes. The proceeds of the bazaar which was opened by Princess Basma will benefit the fund's activities in caring for women and children and developing local communities, especially in southern Jordan.

The fund was established in 1974 as a Jordanian social welfare organisation based in Amman with services extending throughout the Kingdom. It was created after British Save the Children Fund had terminated its services in Jordan in order to continue the invaluable work that had already been achieved in rural and nomadic regions of Jordan.

The Nuzha Centre was built by the fund with financial support from the Amman Chamber of Commerce and the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund.

Jordan celebrates Mothers' Day, pays tribute to Queen Zein

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mothers' Day was celebrated in Jordan and other Arab countries Tuesday. A statement issued by the Jordan News Agency (Petra) said that on the anniversary Jordanians



A file photo of Her Majesty Queen Zein, the Queen Mother during celebrations of 1988 Mother's Day at Umm Al Hussein Orphanage

pay tribute to the Queen Mother Queen Zein Al Sharaf, mother of His Majesty King Hussein and Their Royal Highnesses Prince Mohammad, Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Basma. Her Majesty's endeavours and sacrifices as a mother and first lady of Jordan is also remembered.

On the occasion a charity bazaar was held at the Philadelphia International Hotel in Amman by ladies of Al Nasr district in cooperation with a number of charitable societies in the Kingdom. On display were samples of handicrafts, embroideries, artificial flowers, knitted and other items. Ministry of Information's Secretary General Trad Al Fayez opened the bazaar on behalf of Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh.

More aid to combat locusts:

West Germany provides equipment, insecticides worth DM 1.5 million

AMMAN (J.T.) — West Germany is to provide Jordan with equipment, insecticides and radio equipment worth DM 1.5 million to assist the Kingdom in locust-combat operations, according to an agreement signed in Amman Tuesday.

The agreement, which falls within Bonn's technical cooperation programme, was signed by West German Ambassador Herwig Bartels and Minister of Agriculture Yusef Hamdan Al Jaber.

The announcement came only one day after the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announced the arrival of two "air tractors" at the request of the ministry to assist in the ministry's efforts in fighting the pest.

The two gifts came at a time

when Jordan is bracing for a fight against the desert locusts expected to invade the Kingdom's eastern and south-eastern regions this spring. Waves of desert locusts, which invaded the southeastern part of the country in the past few months were beaten off by Ministry of Agriculture teams backed by air support from the Royal Jordanian Air Force and the badia police.

The Ministry of Agriculture earlier this month produced exhaust sprayers that will be essential in the campaign against the locust invasion, expected this spring.

Mounted on vehicles, the sprayers are easily activated when connected to the vehicle exhaust pipe. The exhaust forces a vertical spray of pesticide into the air as the vehicle crosses an infested field.

According to experts, Jordan's supply of exhaust sprayers will be a major asset in the control of locusts.

In December 1988, the Ministry of Agriculture issued an appeal to friendly nations to provide assistance to the Kingdom to help in the anti-locust campaign, and has been issuing statements with guidance and instruction about means of dealing with the locusts, precautions to be taken while handling equipment and pesticides used in fighting the insects.

The minister of agriculture said then that more than \$2 million were needed to cover the cost of equipment and pesticides, and that his ministry was providing only \$842,000 and hoped to get the rest from other countries and organisations.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday attends the opening session of the cancer conference at the University of Jordan, NHI Director Lt. General Daoud Hanania addresses the gathering (Petra photo)

Queen Noor opens cancer conference, urges

research on disease's psychological effects conference calls for awareness campaign, early Cancer diagnosis

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday called on the participants of the first cancer conference in Jordan to stress the importance of conducting research on the psychological effects of cancer on patients and their families.

After the opening ceremony, the Queen inquired the participants and organisers of the four-day conference about Jordan's facilities for the treatment of children suffering from cancer, especially leukemia (cancer of the blood), and discussed the treatment of cancers which only attack women.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the conference at the University of Jordan, acting Minister of Health Hisham Al Khatib said that it was necessary to create awareness for the need of early detection and treatment of cancer, and to ensure the availability of relevant medical equipment in the Kingdom.

Khatib said that there were not enough awareness campaigns which help citizens develop proper lifestyle that would help them avoid acquiring cancer.

"The main cause for cancer cases is the lifestyle. The lifestyle which allows for smoking, eating the wrong food, coming into unnecessary contact with the sun as well as with carcinogenic materials, and tampering with the environment are all forces which cause cancer. All of these are of our own making; therefore, we are able to avoid and solve them if the human will exists," Khatib told a large group of participants and guests.

The acting minister expressed hope that the conference — which groups specialists from Jordan, Arab countries, Europe and the United States — would transmit to Jordanians ideas which would help them to steer clear of forces that cause cancer. "If we succeed in this, we would have destroyed one of the causes of

cancer in our society," he asserted.

Awareness

Also speaking at the opening session, National Medical Institute Director Lt.-Gen. Daoud Hanania said that the treatment of cancer needs a complete team of doctors and technicians, and an awareness among patients of the forms of cancer and the possibilities of treatment.

"This needs to be supported by governments, and society at large, by extending medical equipment for the treatment of cancer," Hanania stated. Hanania explained that Jordan first began treatment of cancer diseases in 1961 with the assistance of the World Health Organisation (WHO). The government-owned Al Bashir Hospital established the radiotherapy department when the cobalt machine was acquired, and doctors were nominated from the Ministry of Health and the Royal Medical Services to study radiotherapy treatment and specialisation in cancer diseases abroad, he explained.

Hanania went on to say that later a team from the American cancer society visited Jordan to offer their assistance and advice on the establishment of a cancer treatment centre, which opened at Al Bashir Hospital in January 1987.

Cancer centre

Hanania added that the

National Medical Institute has approved a plan to build a new centre for treating these diseases. "And looks to reaching a high level of treatment which would save our citizens and our government the expense and the trouble of treatment abroad."

President of the University of Jordan Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali said at the conference, sponsored and organised by the Jordan Cancer Society (JCS), that a disease of this kind and of this strength "calls upon all of us to direct our research and our efforts to combat and eradicate this disease."

"This is a goal that will not be achieved without concerted efforts on the part of all scientists and doctors with support from governments and concerned authorities, and through the exchange of knowledge among all of us," Majali said.

Addressing the conference Majali suggested: "Let your efforts be directed at the psychological impacts of this disease on patients and their families."

One out of four

According to the head of the JCS and the dean of the faculty of pharmacy at the University of Jordan, Dr. Walid Al Turk, one out of four persons in Jordan faces the danger of getting cancer during his or her lifetime, adding that there is a 66 per cent chance for curing cancer patients if treated at an early stage.

"There is also a 33 per cent chance of curing cancer when treated at an advanced stage. From this view point, the JCS has made plans for early cancer detection by establishing four centres and a mobile early detection unit in order to serve citizens all over the Kingdom," Turk said, adding that the first centre in Amman and the mobile unit are

scheduled to operate before the end of this year.

Turk noted that 50 per cent of all cancers are preventable, and 30 per cent of cancer in urban areas is caused from smoking.

"The most important method for reducing the number of cancer patients is by having a smoke-free society. Hence, the JCS, with the cooperation and assistance from the Jordanian Anti-Smoking Society, has launched awareness campaigns c. smoking and its relation to cancer," Turk said.

He added that the JCS, whose honorary chairperson is His Majesty King Hussein, is aware that cancer is a dangerous problem. "and thousands of Jordanians fall victim to this disease, be they fathers, mothers, children or dear ones."

Working papers

The working papers in the conference cover various subjects on cancer:

- Cancer management in the Arab-Islamic medicine.
- Several papers on leukemia (cancer of the blood) in children and adults and psychological impact on patients and families.
- Ovarian cancer.
- Cancer of the digestive system.
- Cancer of the lymph nodes (lymphomas).
- Lung cancer and its different treatments.
- Head, neck and thyroid cancer.
- Breast cancer.
- Different cancer treatments and surgeries.

In addition to the lectures given on cancer, the conference also includes an exhibition of medicines and medical equipment relating to cancer, in which Jordanian pharmaceutical companies and foreign medical companies are being represented.

Parliamentary affairs

AMMAN (Petra) — European Community delegate to Jordan Christian Falkowski had a meeting Tuesday with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi to discuss an international parliamentary meeting in Brussels in the coming month.

The Brussels meeting is expected to tackle the subject of cooperation between countries in the Mediterranean region and to draw up a general policy for such cooperation. The meeting with Lawzi was attended by Dr. Khalil Al Salem, a House member who will take part in the coming meeting.

Meanwhile a Jordanian parliamentary delegation led by Upper House member Babjat

Talhouni has returned to Amman after taking part in an International Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting held in Budapest. Talhouni who met with Hungarian government leaders to discuss the Middle East and other world issues of common concern delivered Jordan's address to the conference.

The participants in the Budapest meeting, Talhouni said in a statement upon returning here, have voiced their full backing for the projected international Middle East peace conference. Talhouni was accompanied by House member Hazem Nuseibeh who also addressed the conference.



Minister of Social Development Fawwaz Touqan Tuesday presents the Al Kawkab Medal to Angelo Jayakoddy (Petra photo)

Joyakoddy honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred the Jordanian Al Kawkab Medal of the third order on Angelo Jayakoddy director of the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief (SOIR) upon the termination of his duty in Jordan.

The medal was awarded in recognition of Jayakoddy's efforts in promoting services for the care of the handicapped in Jordan, according to an official statement Tuesday.

Minister of Social Development Fawwaz Touqan presented Jayakoddy with the medal at a special ceremony during which he paid tribute to outgoing director

and the existing cooperation between SOIR and the Ministry of Social Development in rehabilitation services. SOIR has been operating in Jordan for over 22 years providing opportunities for education, training and care of mentally retarded children and youth.

SOIR is a Swedish humanitarian relief organisation founded in 1938 with its headquarters in Lund, southern Sweden, and strives to assist the poor and rehabilitate the handicapped. Its branch in Jordan employs more than 100 Jordanians working side-by-side with five Swedish voluntary specialists in rehabilitation fields.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

YEMENI DELEGATION: A North Yemeni delegation headed by Electricity and Water Minister Mohammad Jamal will arrive in Amman Wednesday on a several-day official visit to Jordan for talks with ministers of energy and mineral resources and irrigation on scopes of cooperation in the fields of water, irrigation and energy. (Petra)

CLIMATE CHANGES: Two Jordanian officials will take part Wednesday in a live Worldnet dialogue on planning for world climate changes. Dr. Arafat Tamimi, Vice-President of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) for Industrial Affairs and Duraid Mahasneh, secretary-general of the Aqaba Region Authority will exchange views via satellite with William Moomaw and Irving, minister of the World Resources Institute. (J.T.)

GOVERNORS LEAVE: Governors of the two Egyptian governorates of Cairo and Alexandria Tuesday left Amman at the conclusion of the fifth conference for Islamic Capitals and Cities Organisation which ended in Amman Monday. (Petra)

AUDIT DISCUSSIONS: Two meetings were held Tuesday at the Prime Ministry during which ministers of state for prime ministry affairs, tourism, Audit Bureau President Hashem Dabbas, and officials from the Social Security Corporation discussed the violations contained in the Audit Bureau's report on the tourism ministry, Social Security Corporation and the Tourism Investment Department. (Petra)

DENTAL CONFERENCE: The eighth Jordanian dental conference starts at the University of Jordan's engineering faculty Wednesday, with 71 researchers, 400 dentists and representatives from 18 Arab and Jordanian universities attending. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Egyptian artist 'Adli Rizkullah at Al Wasiti Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by seven Jordanian artists at the Art Gallery of Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 3 - 6 p.m.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmad Ismail displaying paintings on Maqamat Al Hariri and Jordanian landscapes at the Gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental — 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition of posters on the French Revolution at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Al Jalooz at Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Moroccan artist Al Hasbemi Izza at the Gallery, Jabal Luweibdeh.
- ★ A graphic art exhibition displaying works by German artists Lieberman, Stevett and Corioth at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ The Amman computer exhibition at the King Abdullah Complex — 10:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- ★ An art exhibition displaying paintings by children at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ An art exhibition by Yusra Abu Ghazaleh at Philadelphia Hall, Holiday Inn — 5:00 p.m.
- ★ A photography exhibition displaying photos depicting Jordan's historical and touristic sites at the University of Jordan.
- ★ An exhibition of Jordanian national heritage displaying Jordanian-made carpets and dresses of Jordanian rural women at the University of Jordan.
- ★ At the National Gallery of Fine Arts, discussion with Moroccan painter Al Hashimi Izza with Jordanian plastic artists. Open for the public.

BAZAAR

- ★ A charity bazaar at the Nozha Social Development Centre.

FILM

- ★ A French film entitled "Chouans" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

DIALOGUE

- ★ A live Worldnet dialogue on "Planning for World Climatic Change" in which Dr. Arafat Tamimi and Duraid Mahasneh from Jordan will exchange views via satellite with Washington panelists Dr. William Moomaw and Irving Minister at the American Centre — 3:00 p.m.

Hindawi reviews Jordan's education development

KARAK (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi Tuesday said that the government directs special attention to educational development, with a view to upgrading educational performance levels and providing qualified cadres, in the ministry's bid to improve the educational process.

Speaking at a meeting with educational personnel, held at Mu'ta secondary girls school Tuesday, Hindawi reviewed the stages of the educational development process.

He said that focus was on the quantitative education in the fifties but it was shifted to technical and philosophical aspects of education in the sixties. He added that the seventies witnessed the introduction of educational specialisations while the eighties saw a change towards qualitative rather than quantitative education. Hindawi, who was on a tour to the South Mazar district schools, opened Al Husayneh preparatory girls school which was built at a cost of JD 346,000 and Mu'ta secondary girls school, which cost JD 400,000.

Irbid hosts seminar on zakat

IRBID (Petra) — A seminar on zakat (alms for the poor) was held at Yarmouk University Tuesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat deputised for Prince Hassan at the seminar and delivered an address explaining the aims of the zakat which is considered as one of the Islam's main religious duties.

He said that zakat is designed to provide help to the poor and the needy, and help enhance economic stability in a Muslim society.

According to Khayyat, Muslims can offer money, in-kind help, property, land produce and other materials as their contribution to the improvement of the Islamic society through zakat.

Dr. Arselan Bany Yassin chairman of the board of the Islamic cultural centre in Irbid which organised the seminar delivered a speech pointing out the aims of the seminar and the topics it was to tackle.

He also outlined the centre's activities and programmes. Dr. Abdul Mun'em Mohammad Hassanein from Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt

addressed the meeting underlining the importance of zakat as one of the main duties of a Muslim which also include praying, fasting Ramadan and performing the pilgrimage to Mecca.

The participants in the two-day seminar are nearly 40 scholars from Jordanian and Arab universities who will review working papers dealing with the effects of zakat on socio-economic life in the Islamic World.

The governor of Irbid and local government department officials and prominent Islamic figures attended the opening session.



Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Khayyat Tuesday addresses a zakat seminar in Irbid (Petra photo)

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1978.

جوردين تايمز يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Editorial Director:

RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:

DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:

DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation.

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Weekly Political Pulse

By Waleed Sadi

Concessions from both sides

I SUSPECT that when U.S. Secretary of State James Baker hinted that Israel may have to negotiate with the PLO, he was fishing for something in return from the Palestinian organisation. Maybe it is the U.S. way of asking tit for tat. What precisely Washington seeks from the PLO is something that will soon be revealed in Tunis where the American-PLO talks are scheduled to restart.

In itself the introduction of the PLO as an interlocutor in the peace process is a marked departure from American orthodoxy on the Palestinian role in the Middle Eastern diplomacy. Some observers have ventured to postulate that the new emerging American perspective towards the Arab-Israeli conflict reflects the personal character and value judgement of the new American President George Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker. It will be noted that both men are real Texans whose personalities and sense of Americanism were molded in the Lone Star State of Texas. To know Texas is to know Messers Bush and Baker. That is how some knowledgeable Americans would sum the reasons behind the recent metamorphosis in the White House thinking about the Arabs and the Israelis. But such anthropological explanations would not illustrate in full the dynamics that culminated in a rather sudden turn about position in Washington regarding the Palestinian conflict.

To begin with one cannot but discern the remarkable change in American public opinion vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict in the wake of the long durated Palestinian uprising. Over the past 15 months there has been a fundamental shift in American opinion both private and official from outright and rigid support to Israel

to a stronger appreciation of the Arab point of view and a remarkable sympathy towards the Palestinians facing Israeli occupation. But what really gave the green light to Washington to think of the unthinkable and accept the PLO as a central party in the negotiations for the settlement of the Palestinians case is the emergence of strong Jewish support to the idea of engaging the PLO in any negotiations leading to the equitable resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. With the Jewish communities in the West playing ever more pivotal role in shaping the American policy in the Middle East, the next aspired step would be to have them play a similar role in formulating Israeli policies towards the Arab World in general and the Palestinians in particular.

Whether Israel would ever be persuaded by Washington to nod in agreement to the call for negotiating directly with the PLO is something else. As the Palestinian intifada goes on, however, the domestic pressure building up within Israel to talk to the PLO is bound to increase. The voices of prominent Israeli leaders agreeing to talks with the PLO are clearly on the increase. What started with the lone voice of Abba Eban has proliferated to include Israeli political personalities like Ezer Weizman, Matti Peled, Mordechai Gur and scores of others who are now committed to the PLO option. All such developments, whether from Washington or from within the Israeli body politic, may still fumble over if the right steps are not taken in this direction. There are many hurdles still to be overcome if this new process is to come to fruition. Uppermost is the question of whether there will be a clear end for American and Israeli demands for more concessions from the Palestinian side. There is already evidence

that the Palestinian ranks are breaking up in the seams under the pressure for continued concessions by the Americans and the Israelis. And that the Israeli appetite for concessions have increased, there is no telling what would be satiable to them. Yet, maintaining the momentum in favour of dialoguing with the PLO may entail perpetual spelling out of additional concessions; and what is worse, the exposure of all the Palestinian cards well before the formal process of negotiation gets started within the framework of an international conference. The salvation for the Palestinian side in this context may lie in extracting equivalent concessions from the Israeli side along the way of informal negotiations that are currently going on. From a practical point of view this informal negotiation process between the Israelis and the Palestinians have actually started a long time ago. The edging of the Israeli side closer to accepting the PLO as a central party in negotiating the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in return for all the substantive concessions yielded by the PLO has already become part and parcel of the negotiating process undergoing a long time ago. With Washington engaged in formal contacts with the PLO and slowly but surely accepting the PLO as a party in the peace process, the U.S. is clearly in the midst of this sometimes quiet and sometimes noisy but informal negotiating process. This whole process may however fumble on such thorny issues as the right of return that the Palestinian side upholds till now. As the informal negotiations between the Israeli and the Palestinians continue such formidable issues would surface at one time or another. How they are dealt with could very well determine the outcome of many years of informal negotiations that are going on in the Middle East.

Pure common sense

ONE cannot agree more with the appeal made by the secretary-general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Monday at the end of the seminar held at the Amman Chamber of Industry to discuss ways and means to increase Jordanian exports, to the effect that the private sector in Jordan must endeavour more diligently than ever to reduce production costs of manufactured goods and improve their quality. This is pure common sense, the observance of which could very well make or break Jordan's determined efforts to augment its exports regionally and internationally. As economists would see this assessment, cutting production costs would necessarily entail increasing productivity. In this context there is an inevitable interplay between mechanical and intellectual technologies. Most, if not all, developing countries have failed thus far to compliment the introduction of the state-of-art mechanical technologies with the incorporation of intellectual technology in the minds and personalities of the workers and technicians who operate such modern mechanical tools. There is a cultural dimension to all this equation that needs to be addressed if we in Jordan hope and expect to increase our productivity to such an extent as to make our industries competitive, regionally and internationally. It goes without saying that improving the quality of our exports is organically linked with the productivity issue.

It is relevant to mention at this juncture that there are two schools of thought on how to enhance productivity and improve quality. Many developing countries had flirted with the experiment of opening their borders to imports, to force domestic industries to become competitive by reducing their production costs as well as improving the quality of their products. It was found that that was the only effective and workable way to improve local production of manufactured goods. Turkey is a good example of this school of thought which, after many years of experimenting with closing its borders in the face of imports, found out at the end that it was only by forcing local production to face up to foreign competition that they improved their productivity and become more competitive. To be sure what succeeds in Turkey, or any other country for that matter, may not succeed in Jordan where the outflow of hard currencies has had a crippling effect on the whole Jordanian economy. The question that remains for Jordanian private sector to answer is this: How will they exploit the protection afforded them by the new economic and fiscal policies in Jordan to reduce their production costs and improve the quality of their products? Surely they must be given a grace period during which they can be expected to respond affirmatively. If they fail, one would think of experimenting with other economic policies to force them to become more competitive. In other words, this second school of thought, which we in Jordan have reluctantly subscribed to, must remain under close scrutiny at all times. We certainly do not want to repeat the harsh experiments of many Socialist countries.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

IN its editorial Tuesday Al Ra'i daily referred to the Karamah battle which took place on March 21, 1968 describing it as a bright spot in the life of the sad and grieved Arab Nation which suffered a setback in the 1967 war. The paper said that the outcome of the battle frustrated the Israeli leaders' dreams and their false hopes and reestablished confidence in the hearts of the Arab masses. The outcome of the battle, the paper noted, shattered the myth of the so-called invincible Israeli army and awakened the Arab Nation. What happened in 1968 near Karamah in the Jordan Valley region, was not a mere military battle but a development that brought shame and defeat to the enemy and constituted an important turning point in the course of events in the Middle East. The defeat thwarted Israel's hopes of occupying further Arab lands and dominating the destiny of the Arab World, the paper added. It said had the Israelis succeeded in their aggression, the whole region that constituted the eastern front would have fallen prey to Zionist ambitions.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily tackles the situation in the occupied Arab territories in the wake of the latest escalation of violence. Mahmoud Rimawi says that Israeli military experts have now reported to the government that the uprising in the Palestinian lands was expected to last for several years and there was no way of halting it. At the same time, Shimon Peres the leader of the opposition and partner in the present coalition, has issued fresh threats to the government indicating that his party would pull out from the government unless the Likud took steps towards responding to the requirements of peace. The writer says that these are new elements of pressure being exerted on Yitzhak Shamir who has been adamant in his position and continues his rejection of peace ideas. Shamir is determined to close his ears to all calls and threats, and is determined to reject all peace bids, a position which sooner or later would pave the way for the downfall of his regime, the writer adds. He says that the wind of peace is now gradually and slowly affecting Tel Aviv and the Zionists have no alternative but to succumb to the peace calls and reason and capitulate before the increasing pressure and the force of the Palestinian revolt.

Al Dustour daily newspaper referred to the divisions within the present Israeli coalition government resulting from Shamir's rejection of peace and the idea of an international conference to achieve it. The paper said the current divisions represent the most significant outcome of the Palestinian uprising which caused splits between the Likud and Labour in the present government in Israel. The paper said while Shamir continues his drive to mobilise Zionist support for his mad policies, several moderate elements in Israel and the Labour Party as well as intelligence reports presented to the government work in the opposite direction. Shamir is under increasing pressure from within and from outside Israel to end the occupation and open a dialogue with the PLO which represents the Palestinian people so that peace can be achieved in the region. It said that Shamir has responded with mad and frenzied actions; and is taking a more intransigent stand which will be put to the real test during his coming visit to the United States and his talks with the Bush administration.

By Carol Giacomo
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The United States enters a new stage of talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation this week after offering concessions to the Arab point of view on Middle East peace.

First, Secretary of State James Baker has embarked upon a strategy that some analysts perceive as giving the PLO and Israel more or less parallel status.

Second, Baker has admitted Israel may someday have to negotiate peace with its nemesis the PLO, a statement that five months ago would have been unthinkable from an American official.

"He certainly threw a stone in the water," said Middle East expert Robert Hunter of Baker's comment on potential PLO-Israeli talks and its unpredictable rippling effect.

"If I was the PLO, I'd read that very positively," he told Reuters. The meeting on Wednesday in Tunis is the second "substantive" one since the United States and the PLO resumed their dialogue last December after a 13-year break.

Washington had barred contacts until PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat met U.S. conditions to renounce terrorism and recognise Israel's right to exist.

There have been other U.S.-PLO talks since the first meeting but all focused on American complaints about PLO raids against

Israel, not on the larger regional peace questions.

That dialogue begins on Wednesday when Washington is expected to ask the PLO to take steps — like halting demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — to help improve the regional climate so Israeli-Palestinian negotiations can eventually occur.

"It's important for those talks to be useful to both sides," a senior State Department official told Reuters.

Particularly after the visit to Washington last week by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, "it's important for the PLO to know exactly what the U.S. position is," the official said.

As with Arens's visit, U.S. officials and private analysts are not expecting an immediate breakthrough at the Tunis talks. "This is a long-term process," the official said.

Arens's trip was a reconnaissance mission ahead of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's arrival here next month. It marked the start of Baker's foray as secretary of state into the diplomatic morass of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Like the PLO, Israel was urged to devise proposals for reducing tensions in the occupied territories, where a Palestinian uprising is now in its 15th month.

President Bush twice appealed for Shamir to bring "new ideas" when he comes here in April — an emphasis that seemed to pique Arens. U.S. and Israeli sources

said the foreign minister left angry because of Baker's reference to eventual PLO-Israeli talks, which Israel rejects.

Moreover, Arens gave no hint that his right-wing government would heed U.S. calls for tension-reducing measures.

There was no apparent arm-twisting but the U.S. message to its close ally was clear — appropriately so, several experts said.

Baker, considered a pragmatist, and Bush "have set the stage for a long, constructive dialogue, not a confrontation with Israel," said Fred Axelgard of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

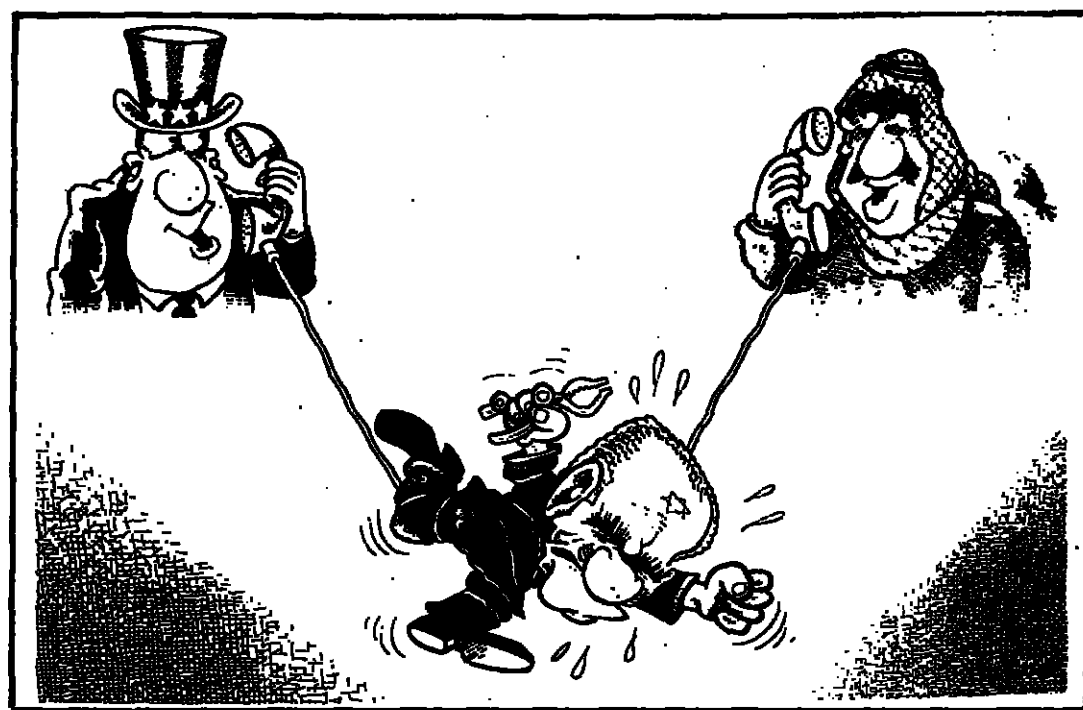
"If there is a change in Israel's position, it will come about through persuasion, not bullying," he said.

Baker has eschewed the approach of his predecessor George Shultz, who in his last year in office advanced a detailed peace plan with specific dates for Arab-Israeli negotiations.

This caused the two sides to move farther apart, not closer, and the Shultz initiative failed.

An Arab diplomat who asked not to be identified told Reuters Bush and Baker are luckier than Shultz because they have inherited a more auspicious climate that should make success easier.

In particular, he said, the United States and PLO are now talking, the PLO seems more interested in a political solution than ever before and the Soviet Union has expressed increasing interest in being helpful in facilitating regional peace.



Convinced the two main players are not yet ready to talk directly, however, Baker has taken a two-pronged approach that seeks to reshape the political environment between Israel and the Palestinians.

First, he is encouraging them to take steps that would prove to each other they are serious about peace and credible partners in a dialogue.

Second, there would be direct discussions on a final settlement.

The blueprint for this strategy was developed last year by a study group sponsored by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy chaired by Lawrence Eagleburger, now deputy secretary of state.

Another prominent group member was Dennis Ross, Baker's director of policy planning and a leader in shaping the new U.S. approach to Middle East peace.

One obvious question is how long Baker is willing to devote

time and energy to this intractable problem. Israel, especially, may try to resist participation, hoping Baker gets distracted by other pressing issues.

"I don't get the sense certainly that the secretary has put any time limit on this," a top Baker aide told Reuters.

"I don't see how one, in a fit of impatience, could say that's all I'm going to do in that region," he said, adding, "I don't even see how that could ever be an option."

Yugoslav political pluralism faces conservative resistance

By Andrej Gustincic
Reuters

BELGRADE — At least 15 opposition groups with the features of political parties have been formed in northern republics of Communist Yugoslavia.

But political pluralism faces growing resistance in the conservative south, where party hardliners are pressing for a return to centralised one-party rule.

The opposition groups have sprung up in Slovenia, along the Austrian border, and in Yugoslavia's second-largest republic, Croatia.

Turmoil in the south, where troops and tanks were sent this month to crush ethnic Albanian unrest in Kosovo province, has strengthened the hand of conservatives rallying around the biggest republic, Serbia, in a drive for greater central control over the autonomous province.

The state presidency declared a partial state of emergency in Kosovo on February 27 to crush a general strike by the province's ethnic Albanian majority.

The Presidency, the country's highest constitutional body, has signalled it may soon move to crush all opposition, including the new parties challenging one-party Communist rule.

"The founding of parties is incompatible with the country's constitutional system," it said in a statement this month.

"The Presidency will insist that the competent state organs treat such occurrences in keeping with the law and constitution."

As the ruling Communist party plunged into factional power rivalry over the past year, opposition groups ranging from Social Democrats to Christian Socialists, Greens and Anarchists appeared in Slovenia.

The republic's leaders have tolerated "non-party pluralism" allowing opposition groups to exist so long as they join the official Socialist Alliance mass organisation.

Slovenian Socialist Alliance President Jozse Smole said recently: "Only associations which re-

spect the constitutional and socio-economic order of Yugoslavia can be established."

In February Slovenian Social Democrats formed the Slovenian Social-Democratic Alliance, and were the first group to state openly that they intended to bid for power.

"Our goal is the peaceful transformation of Yugoslavia from a one-party state into a multi-party parliamentary democracy," said France Tomcic, its founder.

Under police pressure, Tomcic promised his group would join the official Socialist Alliance, but

he told Reuters the final decision would have to be taken by its members.

Another opposition group, the Slovenian Democratic Alliance, was formed in January, but it joined the Socialist Alliance.

Both groups advocated free democratic elections and private enterprise, and an end to Communist Party rule.

"A political party in the western sense cannot be legally formed in Yugoslavia," said Lenart Setinc, executive secretary of the Slovenian Communist Party Central Committee.

"These groups have to play by constitutional and legal rules," Slovenia and Croatia have strong cultural and historical links with neighbouring Austria and Italy.

Before Yugoslavia's creation in 1918, Slovenia and Croatia were under Austro-Hungary, while Serbia and other southern regions of today's Yugoslavia were under the Ottoman Turks.

Recent polls showed most Slovenes felt alienated from the rest of Yugoslavia, seeing their future in Western Europe.

"If I am going to travel anywhere, I'd sooner go to Paris or Berlin than Belgrade," a young Slovene journalist said. "I feel much more at home there than in, say, Serbia."

The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug noted that Yugoslavia is now drawn to two political poles: pluralism as an expression of greater democracy versus one-party monolithism pushed by Serbia.

The country is hit by its worst political and economic crisis since World War II, with 300 per cent inflation, crumbling living stan-

dards and power struggles within the party.

Slovenia, while not unaffected by the economic crisis, still has the highest living standards in the country, with average monthly wages of about 200 dollars, twice the Yugoslav average.

The Slovene opposition groups have found common ground with their regional party and its leader Milan Kucan, especially on the Kosovo issue, fearing that a similar intervention could be launched against Slovenia to crack down on liberalism.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

For all your:
Packing,
Air Freight Forwarding,
Customs Clearance,
Door-to-door Service,
Ticketing and
Reservation needs,
please call:
AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Abdel Hamid Sharaf Street
Shmeisani
P.O. Box 7806
Amman, Jordan
Tel. 604676, 604696

STUDIO HAIG
Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:
* **JUMBO photo**
size 30% larger
* **Free enlarge-**
ment 20 x 30 cm
Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays
Bank. Phone: 604042
Swefish tel: 823891

THE NAME YOU TRUST
TOP QUALITY
HOUSEHOLD
APPLIANCES
Electrolux
SHMAISANI AMMAN
TEL 604671

CROWN INT'L EST.
packing, shipping,
forwarding,
storage, clearing,
door-to-door service
Agents all over the world
Tel: 664090, 660852
Tlx: 22225 BESMCO JO
P.O. Box 82847
AMMAN JORDAN

FOR YOUR Advertisement in Jordan Times
Call tel:
667171 ext.223

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best
Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near
Ahliyyah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 636968

慕堂餐廳 MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant
The only typical Chinese
cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available
Open daily 12:00-15:30
18:00-23:30
Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic
Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estate, near Kilo
Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for
Lunch Friday only
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our
specialties
Open daily 12:00-3:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT
TAIWAN TOURISMO
Authentic Chinese Food
Korean Bar-B-Q
Charcoal Flaming Pot
Take-away service
Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m.
& 6:30 p.m. - midnight
Location: Near 3rd Circle
opposite Alkiah Hospital
Tel: 641093

Kashmiri Restaurant
FIRST CLASS INDIAN
RESTAURANT
Special Executive Luncheons
Take away service
available
Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm
After the Holiday Inn hotel
Towards 3rd circle
Tel: 659519 659520

Features

Return of the boatpeople

VIETNAM's boatpeople are back in the international limelight. A world which, for more than a decade, has witnessed a tragic odyssey as thousands sought to escape from extreme economic hardship and political persecution, is now watching what could prove to be the first step of the process in reverse.

Seventy-five Vietnamese who fled to Hong Kong are now back in their homeland after volunteering to return. They are the vanguard of up to 9,000 boatpeople who may take advantage of a repatriation scheme agreed upon by Britain and Vietnam.

There are at least 60,000 boatpeople currently encamped in East Asian countries, of whom only about half are expected to be resettled in Western countries.

Of the above total, 26,000 have found their way to Hong Kong, attracted by its high living standards and liberal policy towards refugees. But with about six million people already occupying a limited area, the colony could hardly be expected to absorb so many newcomers.



At the end of a dramatic journey — the boat people.

Quite apart from this simple consideration, there are other factors such as the traditional antipathy between Chinese and Vietnamese. The colony is scheduled to revert to China in 1997. It is against this background that the accord between Britain and Vietnam was reached. Hanoi has given an assurance that the returnees will not be punished, but the repatriation scheme is to be supervised by the United Nations' High Commissioner for Refugees.

During their first year back the returnees will receive cash aid, part of which will come from Britain. For many Vietnamese peasants this will represent at least three years' income.

The first group to return was greeted by a lavish breakfast and a promise from government officials that no punishment would follow. This was not surprising for Hanoi has much to gain from the success of this experiment.

The exodus of the boatpeople, together with the opprobrium that the invasion of Cambodia attracted, left Vietnam largely isolated and deprived of much needed economic aid from the West.

This resulted in virtual economic collapse with rampant inflation and acute shortages, especially of food.

But the Vietnamese leadership is obviously hoping that with the promised withdrawal from Cambodia, the repatriation scheme will complete the country's international rehabilitation. This, in turn, will give a vital boost to the economic reform programme launched two years ago.

Therefore Hanoi has pressing reasons for ensuring that the scheme does not fail.

When the first group of returnees arrived, carrying mementoes of Hong Kong such as sophisticated transistor radios, one admitted to being frightened as he left the aircraft and saw policemen.

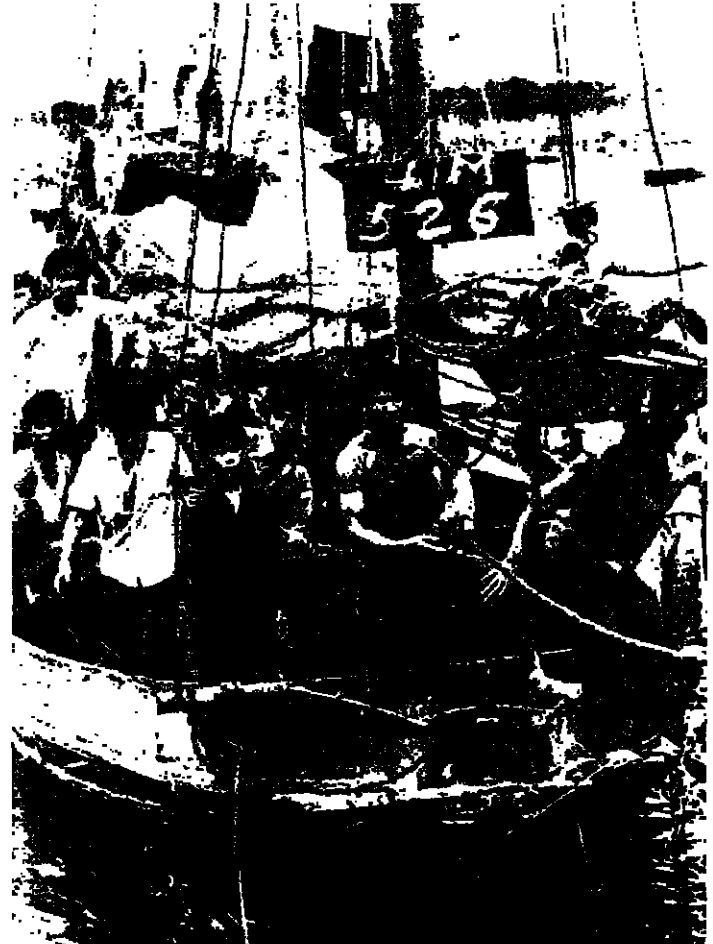
"I didn't know what would happen to me," the 18-year-old Nguyen Manh Trung added. "But then when the officials talked to us, I became calm again because I knew I would not be put in prison."



The boat people on arrival to safety.



The camp of Sham Shin Po where 5,000 refugees were living



Vietnamese refugees arriving in Hong Kong in 1979.

Wild West lives on in the deserts of southern Spain

Martin Langfield
Reuter

TABERNAS, Spain — The ghosts of forgotten gunslingsers walk the desert in Southern Spain.

In the 1960s film-makers shot hundreds of low-budget "spaghetti" Westerns in Spain's southeastern Almeria region, drawn by its Arizona-like wastes, constant sunlight and low prices.

Scenes from classic movies such as David Lean's "Lawrence of Arabia" and Sergio Leone's "Once upon a time in the West" were also filmed here — and some productions have left permanent mementoes of their passage: complete wild West towns nestling among the rocks and red sand.

One of them, "mini-Hollywood," also called Yucca city, near Tabernas, is now run as a tourist attraction, offering staged saloon bar brawls and high-noon shoot-outs at weekends and on public holidays.

"They don't make too many Westerns these days," manager Jose Gomez Adanez said. "We run it more for tourists, and companies who want to make videos."

Twanging Western theme-music booms from hidden loudspeakers as the visitor treads the black cinders along the main street.

There is a bank, a Chinese laundry, and a hardware store doubling as an undertakers.

And in the main square Yucca city displays its gallows.

Out of season, few visitors come, though a small party of Spanish schoolchildren seen here recently were gleefully trying the noose around one another's necks.

The town was built for the films "A fistful of dollars" and "The good, the bad and the ugly" that launched Clint Eastwood to fame in the 1960s as a cheroo-chomping gunslinger.

At the saloon some visitors give in to the temptation to stride manly out through the swing doors for an imaginary showdown.

To complete its authenticity, Yucca city has its own "Boot hill" cemetery set slightly back from the main street.

The illusion is only spoilt by walking behind the buildings, where the joists supporting some of the frontages come into view.

Local people say their lives became entangled with the bustle of the film-world.

Antonio Ortiz Garcia, a former driver with a film-company, remembers how he was pressed into service on "Lawrence of Arabia" one day.

"They dressed me up as an English soldier and made me pretend to drive up in a rush, haul on the breaks and skid to a halt," he said. "They made me up really heavily, with a blond wig and moustache, so I wouldn't appear too Spanish."

He said the scene was shot in a slow-motion, with the car pulled slowly forward on a rope, then speeded up.

In the passenger seat was Peter O'Toole, in the role that would make him famous as the British scholar turned army officer who led a revolt of Arab tribesmen against the Turks during World War I.

Ortiz had seen his own brief performance on the big screen. "But you wouldn't recognise me, I didn't recognise myself."

The vogue for Almeria's desert may have passed, though a spoof Western, "Rustlers' rhapsody," was shot nearby in 1984 and American director Steven Spielberg filmed parts of his "Empire of the Sun," in southern Spain two years ago.

The film-makers were welcome because they brought money and work as well as the occasional chance to appear as an extra.

One Almeria man became so enamoured of Westerns that he used to turn up auditions wearing his own cowboy outfit, Ortiz recalled.

"He appeared in hundreds. He has photos with all the stars," Ortiz said.

And the spirit of the Wild West lives on, it seems, even on Almeria's city streets.

You can still see him cycling around in his outfit, I think he even has the guns," Ortiz said.

Restoring the dignity of coca

By Amanda Davila

Peasants in Bolivia are searching for legitimate uses for the coca leaves they grow. Their livelihoods are threatened by government crack-downs on the coca growing which feeds international drug trafficking.

LA PAZ, BOLIVIA — Despite the immense suffering that cocaine is causing worldwide, Bolivian peasant growers of the "coca" plant from which the drug is extracted are fighting "to restore the dignity of this sacred and medicinal plant, which has been blemished by drug traffickers and users."

So says Prudencio Ticona, who has been entrusted by thousands of Bolivian peasants to defend traditional coca growing.

Thirty-eight years old, Ticona was until 1986 also a coca grower on a tiny plot in the tropical valleys of Chapare, in the department of Cochabamba. He has since been a representative of fellow peasants in the Council for Industrialisation of Coca (COINCOCA). This body brings together four federations of small coca growers in Chapare, involving 35,000 families.

The coca plant was utilised centuries ago by the Inca civilisation in what is today Peru and Bolivia, for medicinal, ritual and social uses. The "acuñico," chewing of coca leaves, is still a common practice in an estimated 40% of Bolivia's households.

In Bolivia coca production from 12,000 hectares is intended for traditional consumption. Another 48,000 hectares are currently cultivated to produce leaves that will first be converted into coca paste, and then into cocaine for the international market of illegal drugs.

The Chapare growers are among the 80,000 coca producers in Cochabamba; a further 30,000 are in La Paz and Los Yungas. Since the creation of COINCOCA in 1986, Ticona has been responsible for the promotion of coca products for medicinal purposes. In attempting to create a market, peasants are looking for competitive alternatives to the cultivation of coca for the manufacture of illegal drugs.

The medicines are prepared by traditional coca producers following the recipes of their ancestors but using modern methods.

COINCOCA has applied to the Bolivian Ministry of Health for licences to market three products: "coca syrup", a product claimed to counter physical weakness, sexual impotence and anaemia; "Cocabets" which is described as an anti-diabetic to reduce the sugar level in the blood; and "Cocaestet," for obesity.

The scientific justification for these claims is not clear. Salim Ascha, director of Pharmacies and Laboratories at the Ministry of Health, says that the ministry is carrying out trials of the products before their marketing can be authorised.

Coca producers have also been working together with physicians and pharmacists to study the possibility of industrialising coca for various purposes, taking advantage of the different components of the coca leaf.

Many Bolivian peasants are convinced that the only solution to avoid having the surplus of coca leaves end up in the manufacture of illegal drugs is the industrialisation of coca for medicinal and other purposes.

"There is no other crop that is so resistant to drought and pest, yields four crops a year and provides enough income to ensure the livelihood of thousands of Bolivian families," says Prudencio Ticona.

New crops

However, the Bolivian government is moving in a different direction: eradication of coca cultivation and substitution of new crops for coca.

In July 1988 the government issued a new law to regulate and reduce the production of coca. The law, staunchly opposed by growers and some political parties, establishes the areas where coca can be legally cultivated, as well as those where coca production has been made illegal. It also imposes what is defined as "voluntary" crop substitution, with the threat that, if peasants refuse to substitute other crops for coca, they will be forced to do so.

The Bolivian government claims the law shows its political will to collaborate with the international community in fighting drug trafficking.

The Minister of Peasant Affairs and Agriculture, Guillermo Justiniano, has said that the law is an attempt to prevent peasants from moving further towards cocaine manufacturing. "We cannot permit Bolivian peasants to be massively involved in the production of cocaine. That would be the recipe for social disaster."

But he also recognises that "a major problem with crop substitution is the lack of markets for new products, an issue that we still have to discuss with industrialised nations."

The U.S. Agency for International Development is one of the organisations sponsoring crop substitution in Bolivia. Peasants have been encouraged to grow pineapples instead of coca. But in the neighbouring market of Argentina, Bolivian pineapples cost three times as much as those imported from South Africa.

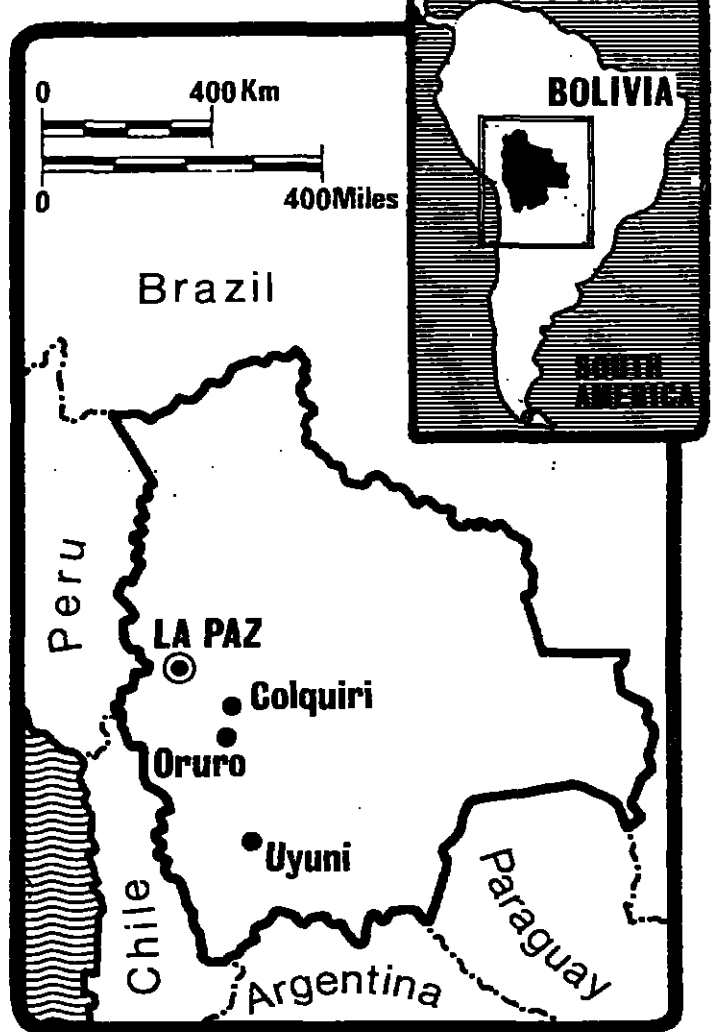
Bolivian development experts and some peasant unions say that only crop substitution with products that command competitive prices in the world market as a part of a coherent strategy of rural development would be a viable option, provided that financial resources are available.

According to some statistics, one "load" of coca leaves 135 kilograms is worth \$720. In one year, a hectare planted with coca, which yields four crops annually, produces \$5,760. Considering that the total area cultivated with coca is 60,000 hectares, the annual production is worth \$345 million.

The Bolivian Episcopal Conference opposes the new law on the basis that "it lacks solid justification."

According to the bishops, "the government has not conducted a study of the situation of increasing poverty the country is experiencing today and of the needs of the peasants, 90% of whom live in conditions of extreme deprivation. (Peasants) are also major consumers of coca leaves (because it) helps them to mitigate hunger and exhaustion."

Furthermore, the new legislation has been conceived on the basis of "unsubstantiated promises of external help." But, say the bishops, "We do not see such an avalanche of dollars anywhere" — Pano



Fashion in Paris: an expensive commodity

By Michela Wrong
Reuter

PARIS — International fashion designers made frenzied last-minute preparations for the start of eight days of autumn and winter ready-to-wear previews.

French, Japanese, Italian, American and British designers will unveil their latest fashion creations, in three huge marquees set up in the courtyard of the Louvre museum.

Nearly 2,000 journalists and photographers, 700 professional buyers, and other visitors queued to get into over 60 shows at the Louvre and smaller venues around the capital.

Afraid that their cherished ideas will be whipped up and copied by fashion pirates, most designers kept tight-lipped over what to expect.

But Christian Lacroix, a rising star of the fashion scene, delivered a collection with a touch of 1930s nostalgia, featuring his favourite trapezium silhouette, which falls tent-like from tight shoulders.

Colours would be characteristically bright — orange, jade and lapis (blue). Skirt lengths, no longer considered to be the crucial fashion indicator they once were, will come both above and below the knee.

Seen as the nearest rival to fashion king Yves Saint Laurent, Lacroix expected and got a full house for his preview as pundits try to evaluate whether the old master is in danger of being overtaken by the young challenger.

Fashion buffs had wondered whether the Guy Laroche fashion house would present a collection so soon after the designer's death from cancer last month.

But press spokesman Jean-Paul Caboché said the preview would be shown as scheduled.

"Laroche himself prepared the collection with stylist Guy Duvier before he died," he said.

A focus of attention is bound to be Italian designer Romeo Gigli, a newcomer who is due to show his first ready-to-wear collection in France.

The previews will be closely followed by the fashion press, manufacturers and the women curious to know what local boutiques will be stocking in six months time.

In contrast to the expensive made-to-measure lines the more moderately-priced prêt-à-porter collections aim for a wider audience.

The publicity surrounding the prestigious previews is a vital factor in keeping the \$470 million French fashion industry afloat.

Duck-billed Platypus puzzles scientists

By Robert Woodward
Reuter

SYDNEY — Children all over the world know the duck-billed Platypus is a cute little bundle of fur with webbed feet that is found in Australian streams.

That's about all scientists know too.

"We understand virtually nothing about its breeding biology, its social biology and its distribution," said Dedee Woodside, a scientist at Sydney's Taronga Zoo.

"It's a shameful thing that since the discovery of the Platypus we have found out so little. They've been around 25 million years we have an obligation to get to know them."

Woodside recently arranged a two-day conference on the Platypus, one of only three species of monotreme (egg-laying mammals) in the world.

All three — the Platypus, Echidna and New Guinea Echidna — are unique to Australia or neighbouring Papua New Guinea.

Out of the conference came a realisation that scientists' ignorance was so deep, the Platypus might quietly become extinct unless a lot more was discovered about its life cycle.

"They're not on the list of endangered species but I'm not going to make any predictions about their future — we know zero about the size of the Platypus population," Woodside said.

Unlike Australia's much-photographed Koala and Kangaroo, the Platypus is rarely seen in the wild. It lives in concealed river bank burrows and moves around at night.

Platypuses grow to around 60 centimetres long and can stay underwater for around five minutes at a time. They root around for food at the bottom of streams with their bills, one of nature's most remarkable tools.

The bill has to be flexible enough to pick up small prawns, yet strong enough to lift small stones and tough enough to help dig burrows.

Amazingly the leathery bill also packs a radar system.

"It's got a really wild sensory system," Woodside said. "It's basically a very primitive animal with lots of links to reptiles, but it is sensorily very advanced with an element of perception that humans cannot feel or understand."

When a Platypus dives into often murky water it apparently closes its eyes and earholes, relying totally on its bill for guidance.

The bill senses its prey through the electric currents the prey creates when moving through the water.

The Platypus's extreme sensitivity to water movements could explain why it often disappeared from rivers on which weirs and hydro-electric plants had been built. Whether the Platypus died or just moved on was not known, Woodside said.

Once treated as vermin by farmers, Platypuses are increasingly being seen as an important indicator of the health of river systems. They are extremely "faithful" to their burrows but can move several kilometres overland if necessary.

Pollution, increasing salinity of inland waterways and farming methods are threatening the habitat of the Platypus, which has proved well-nigh impossible to breed in captivity.

In the 191 years since its discovery the Platypus, which lays two eggs every year, has bred successfully only once in captivity, in 1944 in a private Queensland Zoo.

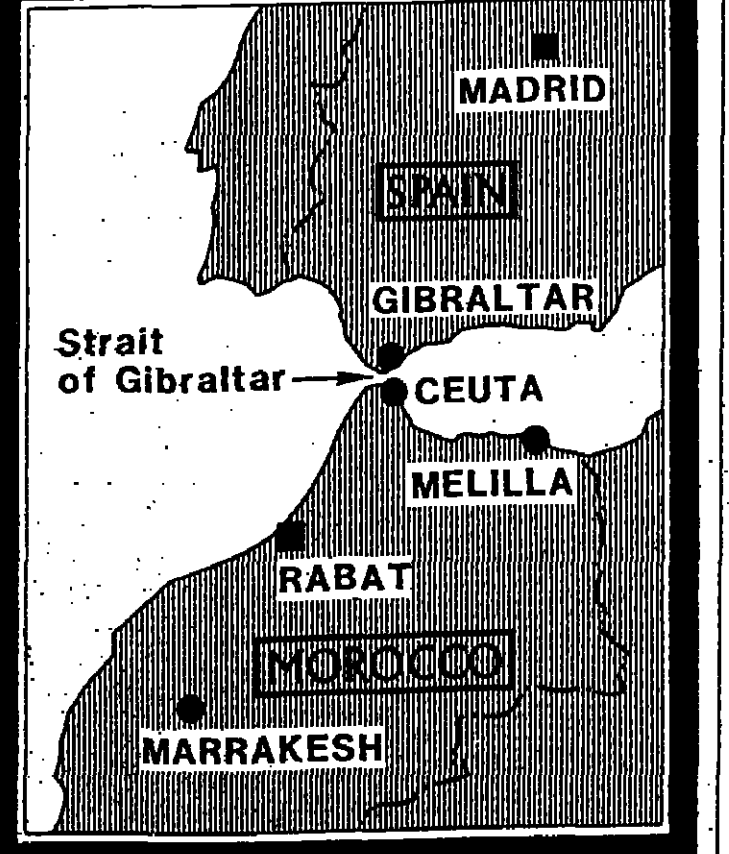
Taronga has twice had one of its exhibits lay eggs but they did not hatch.

The zoo, the only place in the world the three monotremes can be seen, is establishing a unit to study the animal's breeding cycle.

Woodside said successful breeding was the best way Australia could persuade the outside world of its determination to preserve the Platypus, an animal which is not allowed to leave the country either for research or for a zoo visit.

"Australians are the sole custodians of the entire monotreme phenomenon and its evolutionary process but they do not seem to care if the Platypus disappears," she said.

"We must realise the uniqueness of our fauna and do something about it."



<p>Cinema</p> <p>CONCORD</p> <p>BOB GOLD THWAIT IN BURGLAR</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 9:00</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <p>NJOUM</p> <p>DISORERLISE</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <p>PLAZA</p> <p>STRIPES</p> <p>Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>
--	--	--

Gulf Arabs promote private investments

BAHRAIN (R) — Gulf Arab states are urging private investors be more active in the region's economy in a bid to parcel out the management burden and repatriate billions of dollars invested abroad.

Gulf economists and bankers say scope may be limited, but rising share prices and plans by some governments of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to sell off assets show the privatisation trend is gathering momentum.

A ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war last August and higher risks from fluctuating foreign exchange rates has boosted local investor confidence, paving the way for the return of some of an estimated \$100 billion of GCC private overseas assets.

"Overall, the atmosphere is much more conducive towards privatisation and governments are encouraging this trend," Gulf International Bank (GIB) economist Henry Azzam told Reuters.

"If this mood of confidence continues to grow... it is not far

fetched to think of a situation whereby investors will start to increase their exposure in the domestic market," he said.

The GCC and economic and defence grouping founded in May 1981, comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Bahrain announced last month it had approved plans to sell its stake in some state-run firms, starting with national hotel companies, after its new stock exchange opens on March 30.

At the same time, the island's second-biggest offshore bank, Arab Banking Corporation (ABC), said it was studying plans for a public share flotation in Arab markets. ABC is owned by Abu Dhabi, Kuwait and Libya.

Saudi officials say they are considering plans to float at least part

of the kingdom's stake in the state-owned oil company Petromin, the national carrier Saudia Airlines, and Gulf International Bank, ABC's main rival.

Directors of the regional carrier Gulf Air — owned by the governments of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and Abu Dhabi — said last November they would float shares for half the airline's paid-up capital if it made a profit in 1988, which it did.

Bankers say GCC governments, their budgets still under pressure from lower oil income, have much to gain from privatisation.

"This policy will open new avenues for investors in the country, giving them outlets for cash surpluses which they may be holding now in the form of bank deposits," Hassan Juman, general manager of the National Bank of Bahrain told Reuters.

"It could lead to the return of capital outside the country and should relieve the government of the burden of managing these investments which are really private businesses," he said.

GCC states are still major own-

ers of shares in their respective stock markets. Selling some of these would generate new revenues and increase the supply of shares to fledgling capital markets, economists say.

But the lack of depth to the region's stock markets is in itself a barrier to large-scale privatisation.

"Gulf states cannot privatise in a big way because the mechanism is not yet there," Azzam said. "They will not just dump shares on the market, they will do it slowly, gradually, so prices will not be depressed. At the moment there is a lot of demand vis-a-vis the supply," he added.

Four new public share flotations in Saudi Arabia last year were heavily oversubscribed. The kingdom's stock market index rose 11.1 per cent during 1988, with share prices of one firm — SABIC petrochemical company — skyrocketing 167 per cent. Shares in the UAE and Bahrain also performed well with price increases of more than 50 per cent for some stocks.

Kuwait is the only GCC coun-

try which has an actual trading floor at present, but Oman is planning to open an exchange soon after the Bahraini floor begins operating.

An exchange which opened in Saudi Arabia in 1987 was closed after three weeks because of what bankers termed religious objections from the country's conservative religious community.

In another indication of growing investor confidence, businessmen from the six GCC states and Iraq last month finalised plans for a new industrial investment company.

They said the firm — with a paid-in capital of \$100 million — would take over projects approved by the Doha-based Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancy (GOIC), a government body.

"There is a great deal of enthusiasm for the project," Abdullah

Al Moajil, GOIC secretary-general said.

"There are enough financial resources in the private sector and it is only a question of building real confidence," he added.

Economists say one snag which may hinder future share flotations is the choice of companies offered to the public.

Officials say they would like to divest from marginal companies which private enterprise could make more profitable, while local businessmen say they want access to better assets.

"People are not going to put their money into risky companies when they are earning 10 per cent on their deposits," said Jamil Ali Ibrahim, head of Bahrain's Ibrahim Group.

"The government should begin by offering really good companies to give the people faith," he told Reuters.

Pan-Arab insurance body boosts trade, investment cover

KUWAIT (R) — A Pan-Arab body that guarantees inter-Arab trade and investment said Monday it increased the value of its coverage last year by more than 50 per cent.

The Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation said in a statement it guaranteed export and investment contracts between Arab countries worth \$239 million compared with \$156 million in 1987.

It guaranteed export contracts

last year to nine Arab countries worth \$200 million compared with \$140 million to seven countries in 1987. The export guarantees cover both commercial and non-commercial risk.

The Kuwait-based corporation was set up in 1975 by all Arab governments to encourage inter-Arab trade and investment.

Reserves climbed to \$76.6 million at the end of last year from \$70.2 million a year earlier, the statement said.

Algerian government moves to stop strikes

ALGIERS (R) — The Algerian government has agreed on special measures to prevent strikes which have plagued the country under political liberalisation introduced since bloody rioting last October.

The measures include new statutes for various categories of workers and "legislation to prevent and settle social conflicts," the official news agency APS reported Tuesday.

A cabinet meeting was held Monday that the number of strikes had diminished since the beginning of this year but walk-outs were still damaging the economy and causing hardships for the population, APS said.

Strikes in various sectors were "causing big losses for the country and at times unacceptable wrongs for the population and financial difficulties for enterprises, thus threatening efforts to maintain employment and re-launch the economy," the report said.

Unemployment and other economic hardships were the main grievances which sparked the October riots in which 162 people died according to official figures.

Recent reports carried by APS said strikes in the building, education, banking and sanitary sectors were often motivated by dissatisfaction with the management's handling of enterprises.

"Dirty work bonus"

A six-day strike by 3,500 trash collectors in the city of Algiers ended Monday after the administration agreed to pay them a "dirty work bonus" and other benefits with effect from next month.

APS said the government was counting on the civic spirit and sense of responsibility of the workers to settle disputes by constructive dialogue.

OECD calls for more economic deregulation

PARIS (R) — The OECD Monday called on developed nations to deregulate their economies further, saying the process which began at the beginning of the 1980s had far from run its course.

In a new study, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said industrial nations still had room to dismantle rigidities in labour markets, financial markets, industrial structures and the public sector.

Harmut Fest, OECD deputy director and one of the report's authors, told a news conference: "The message... is that all OECD economies by now accept that governments are not best-placed to solve the imperfections or even the malfunction of the markets."

Faced with persistent world trade imbalances and an unwill-

ingness to risk pushing the dollar still lower, the seven major industrial nations (G7) have relied increasingly on structural change to achieve growth, particularly in Europe.

Fest said he hoped the annual meeting of economics and finance ministers of the 24 OECD member nations would support more and deeper structural adjustments.

"Without these policies being taken since the beginning of the 1980s, we would probably not have had all the buoyant demand growth without inflationary pressures that we have seen in the last two years," he said.

"The basis has been laid but there is unfinished business for the five or 10 years to come," he emphasised.

French companies press Paris to ease way for Iraqi contracts

PARIS (R) — French companies hoping for lucrative post-war contracts in Iraq are pressing Paris to ease conditions for rescheduling Baghdad's estimated \$6 billion debt to France.

"If the government does not realise that Iraq is potentially the best market in the Arab World then I must say we are being mismanaged," said Pierre Parisot, managing director of French civil engineering and construction firm Sogea.

"Certainly the business community is making this point clear to the government," Parisot said after a seminar on post-war reconstruction in Iraq.

His company has completed a

food processing plant in Baghdad, costing \$1 billion.

The stakes have risen even higher and Iraq is wasting no opportunity to tempt French exporters with big contracts now that its eight-year war with Iran is over.

Iraqi ambassador Abdul Rezzak Al Hashimi told the seminar his country would remember companies that stayed in the Iraqi market during the war that ended eight months ago.

"The French companies are those who stayed during the war and we want them to take their place in the Iraqi market during the coming years," he said.

Businessmen at the meeting

said the French government credit agency Coface, following a hard line taken by the finance ministry, was refusing further cover for French exporters until Iraq repaid some of its debt.

Most estimates put this at \$6 billion, with debts to French companies accounting for about a third. The rest is owed to government.

Experts from the two countries met in Iraq last month to work out a rescheduling accord. Hashimi said a follow-up meeting in Paris this month had not taken place and talks were continuing on a diplomatic level.

A French businessman told Reuters: "What the Iraqis want now more than anything else is

for France to make a political commitment on its faith in Iraq."

Analysts said France looked certain to yield to this pressure, not least because of its huge debt in Iraq but also because of political uncertainty in Iran.

Paris has halted moves towards closer ties with Tehran which would have opened the reconstruction market there to French firms.

Soviets open trade to all enterprises

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet government expanded the right to trade with foreigners from about 100 ministries and state enterprises to virtually all businesses in the country, the official news agency TASS has reported.

The decree amounts to a major deregulation in a country where contact with foreigners was strictly limited until a few years ago, and even today merits police scrutiny in some locations. The move had been expected since the council of ministers announced in December that it would act to expand exports by spring.

Even cooperatives, the private businesses which share their profits among their members, are permitted to trade.

Foreign currency is still strictly controlled, and businesses that earn convertible currency expect it to be heavily taxed. The rouble is not convertible, and the Soviet Union urgently needs foreign cash to buy Western technology.

Authorities are planning to allow Soviet businesses to buy convertible currency like dollars in a sealed-bid auction, said Alexander Potomkin of the Foreign Economic Bank. However, thus far he has had trouble finding organisations willing to sell their foreign currency.

Businessmen are watching for this auction with great curiosity, as they expect a rate of six to seven rubles to the dollar would be necessary to draw sellers. The official exchange rate is ten times that, at 62.24 rubles per dollar.

Traders will still operate under considerable uncertainty, however, because TASS said the ministry for external economic relations is being empowered to limit imports and exports of specific goods as it sees fit.

OPEC, non-OPEC ministers to meet in Vienna next week

KUWAIT (R) — OPEC oil ministers will hold a joint meeting in Vienna with representatives of independent oil producers on March 31 to discuss ways of supporting world oil prices, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said Tuesday.

KUNA quoted a senior Gulf oil source as saying the goal of the meeting was to support world oil prices at OPEC's target level of \$18 a barrel.

Eight OPEC ministers are already due to hold a meeting of the group's price committee in Vienna on March 29.

KUNA did not name the 11 non-OPEC countries it said would participate, but five independent producers — Egypt, Mex-

ico, Oman, the Soviet Union and Angola — have already announced output cuts to help OPEC stabilise world oil prices at the \$18 level.

KUNA said the non-OPEC producers would be represented by their ministers or other officials.

A Kuwaiti oil official, who asked not to be named, confirmed a joint meeting of OPEC and non-OPEC ministers had been tentatively agreed.

"There is a proposal which has been tentatively accepted by both sides," he said.

But the official could not confirm that all 13 OPEC states would be represented.

"The goal of this joint meeting

is to discuss ways of strengthening the world oil market and to support oil prices to reach the target level of \$18 a barrel," KUNA said.

KUNA said the meeting would discuss whether cooperation should be based on individual initiatives whenever the situation required, or take a more permanent and official form.

The agency quoted its source as saying the meeting would give the market a psychological boost by showing the determination of oil producers to work together.

The eight OPEC states on the group's monitoring committee due to meet next week are Algeria, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

China announces tax hikes to limit wide extravagance

BEIJING (AP) — Government leaders Tuesday said they were slapping new taxes on China's thriving private sector and raising taxes on such items as cars and colour televisions in an effort to encourage austerity and limit extravagance.

Top leaders, continuing their theme of economic and political retrenchment, also told China's legislature that they were eliminating loans to private and collectively run enterprises.

They unveiled a number of cost-cutting measures and said all Chinese will be expected to file tax returns. They predicted a \$2 billion deficit this year out of a \$79.2 billion budget.

The speeches by Vice Premier Yao Yilin and Finance Minister Wang Bingqian marked a continuation of the somber line presented Monday by Premier Li Peng in his opening speech to the National People's Congress.

Yao and Wang emphasised the need for centralising China's economy, a contrast with calls during last year's congress for bold

efforts to move the economy away from rigid central planning. The leaders told the 2,768 congress delegates that what China needs now is more control, not more economic freedom.

In his report on the economy, Yao called for huge cuts in construction projects, loans, industrial growth and consumer demand.

He said even successful and necessary projects might have to be curtailed "if they surpass the capabilities of financial and material resources."

The congress is meeting as China faces severe economic troubles. Inflation has hit a record high 36 per cent, sparking panic buying and bank runs. Rising crime affects China's cities and corruption sullies the halls of government.

Many troubles have been blamed on inflation. In September, China began tackling price rises, slowing reforms designed to introduce elements of a market economy into China's state-run system.

Yao announced an end to loans for fledgling private and collec-

tively-owned enterprises. He also said all projects outside the state plan would be halted until July unless they were absolutely necessary.

Wang said these enterprises would be hit with an additional 10 per cent surcharge on their after-tax profits. He also slapped a consumption tax on colour television sets and automobiles and said every Chinese would be required to report his income to the authorities.

Tax evasion in China is rampant and a 1987 law requiring people who make more than 400 yuan (\$81) a month to pay taxes is routinely ignored.

In his speech, Yao called on

Chinese to tighten their belts. "In the past few years, there has been widespread and serious extravagance and waste," he said. "All this has not only seriously conflicted with China's economic level at present, but also tarnished our fine traditions and encouraged reprehensible social conduct."

In his speech on the budget, Yao put China's revenues for 1989 at 285.68 billion yuan (\$77.2 billion) and expenditures at 293.08 billion yuan (\$79.2 billion) for a deficit of 7.1 billion yuan (\$2 billion). Education and agriculture were slated for the biggest increases.

Monday, Li announced a 15 per cent increase in the education budget, to 37.4 billion yuan (\$10 billion). Agriculture will also get 10 per cent more than last year, reaching 17.306 billion yuan (\$4.7 billion).

In addition, the state will increase its grain purchase price by 18 per cent beginning April 1 in an effort to end a four-year production slump.

MANY VILLAS AND APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Furnished or Unfurnished
In Shmeisani, Sweifieh, Abdoun and many other locations.

For more information please call Wael Real Estate at 685342

OFFER FOR HAPPINESS

This Path bring happiness, contentment and health. It is the Path within to God, the cosmic consciousness.

Free information is available in different languages: UNIVERSELLES LEBEN, Dept. F, P.O. Box 5643, D-8700 Wuerzburg, West-Germany.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

IMF signals new lending approach

AMSTERDAM (R) — The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Monday the fund would consider extending loans to Third World countries without full assurance of additional financing support from other creditors. IMF Managing-Director Michel Camdessus's remarks, in his first public statement on U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady's debt plan, signalled a departure from the fund's traditional lending policies. Brady outlined his debt reduction initiative on March 10. "An institution with a preferred creditor status has to be willing to take the lead," Camdessus said at the Inter-American Development Bank's (IADB) annual meeting here. Up to now, the IMF has approved new structural adjustment programme loans for Third World debtors only after receiving assurances of support from other creditors such as international commercial banks.

Strike paralyses Cyprus

NICOSIA (R) — Cyriots left their cars at home in droves Tuesday as a five-day-old strike by petrol stations began to bite. "If Cyriots could, they would use their cars to travel to the toilet," a car-hire owner said, adding that people were now using their cars only when they had no alternative. Petrol station owners locked their pumps at the end of business hours Thursday after rejecting an offer of a five per cent increase in commission on petrol sales. They are demanding a 20 per cent rise. Negotiations between the oil companies, station owners and the ministry of commerce and industry ended in deadlock Monday, according to official sources. Petrol stations in northern Cyprus, a breakaway republic recognised only by Ankara, are not affected.

Kuwait, India sign \$400m oil deal

KUWAIT (AP) — India and Kuwait have signed a \$400 million oil contract, with a 33 per cent increase over 1988 in the volume of India's lifting of Kuwaiti crude oil and refined products, the English-language daily Kuwait Times reported Tuesday. Quoting Indian embassy officials, the paper said that under the contract, Kuwait will be selling India this year one million tons of crude oil and 1.8 million tons of oil products. Making the comparison with last year, the paper said that India bought 700,000 tons of crude oil and 1.2 million tons of petroleum products in 1988 from Kuwait, with a total value of \$300 million.

Black and Decker, Emhart to merge

FARMINGTON, Connecticut (R) — Emhart Corp said Monday it had agreed to be acquired by Black and Decker Corp in a deal that values the company at \$2.8 billion. Emhart has been fighting an unsolicited \$2.4 billion takeover offer from an investment partnership that includes oil heir Gordon Getty. Black and Decker's \$40 a share tender offer for Emhart, a manufacturing concern based here, will begin this week. Emhart Chairman Peter Scott said he backed the Black and Decker offer, which was approved by the boards of both companies.

Turkish steel workers begin strike

ANKARA (R) — More than 24,000 Turkish iron and steel workers will strike Wednesday for higher pay after last-minute talks broke down, a union official said Monday. The strike will affect major factories at Iskenderun on the Mediterranean coast and Karabuk on the Black Sea, he told reporters. The workers want wage increases of up to 440 per cent over two years, to take their average monthly pay to the equivalent of up to \$330 from \$61 now. They have rejected offers of a 138 per cent increase over the same period. "No more talks until the strike begins. But we will consider proposals later on," the official said.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, March 21, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	Japanese yen (for 100)	84.8	85.6
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	Dutch guilder	406.9	413.0	
Pound Sterling	922.4	931.2	Swedish crown	84.1	84.9	
Deutschemark	287.0	290.0	Italian lira (for 100)	30.1	30.5	
Swiss franc	332.8	336.5	Belgian franc (for 10)	137.1	138.4	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

	1.7138/48	U.S. dollar
One Sterling	1.1935/45	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.8745/52	Deutschemark
	2.1142/52	Dutch guilders
	1.6173/78	Swiss francs
	39.23/26	Belgian francs
	6.3450/500	French francs
	1374/375	Italian lire
	131.50/60	Japanese yen
	6.3930/80	Swedish crowns
	6.8080/130	Norwegian crowns
	7.3070/120	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	394.00/394.35	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares withstood negative pressure from overseas to close marginally off in dull trade, ending above the day's lows as inflation-wary investors turned to gold stocks. The All Ordinaries index closed down 2.0 points at 1,482.3.

TOKYO — The market was closed for a holiday.

HONG KONG — Stocks staged an afternoon comeback to end up despite inflation fears. The Hang Seng index rose 9.7 points to 3,056.43.

ZURICH — Swiss share prices closed steady to higher after a day of active turnover. The all share Swiss index was up 1.8 points to close at 984.7.

LONDON — Share prices were broadly firm after Wall Street's favourable response to a smaller than expected rise in February. By 1551 the FTSE index was 16.5 up at 2,070.1.

NEW YORK — A smaller than expected rise in February pushed stock higher after two days of high losses. The Dow was up 10 at 2272 after rising to 2283. Gainers led decliners by over three-to-one.

SINGAPORE — The stock market ended with widespread gains after buying interest emerged to reverse an earlier softer trend, dealers said.

BOMBAY — Share prices fell for a second day on heavy profit-taking ahead of the three week settlement, brokers said. The market will remain closed Wednesday for a Hindu festival.

FRANKFURT — German shares closed steady to slightly higher in thin Frankfurt trading with mounting worries about U.S. inflation and interest rates. The real-time DAX index closed a scant 0.88 off at 1,303.28.

'Charlie Hustle' vetted by baseball for gambling

PLANT CITY, Florida (AP) — Major league baseball acknowledged Monday that it has been investigating "serious allegations" involving Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose, who was linked to gambling activities last month.

"The office of the commissioner, which was founded to preserve the integrity of the game, has for several months been conducting a full inquiry into serious allegations involving Mr. Pete Rose," Commissioner Peter Ueberroth said in a joint statement issued with A. Bartlett Giamatti, the national league president and commissioner-elect.

"When the commissioner's office has completed its inquiry, the commissioner will consider the information presented and take whatever action is warranted by the facts contained within the rules and procedures of major league baseball," the statement said.

Rose, who earned the nickname "Charlie Hustle," because of his all-out style of play before he became a manager, is one of major league baseball's best-known personalities.

Asked if he was aware of the announcement, Rose said "yeah." Asked if he had anything to say about it, he nodded toward the release and said: "That's it. No comment."

"If something happens, when it happens I'll talk about it then," Rose said.

Rose flew to New York from spring training on Feb. 28 to meet with Ueberroth, Giamatti and several lawyers. At the time, the commissioner's office said the matter was private, but several

news reports said gambling was discussed.

Not until Monday did baseball acknowledge it was investigating Rose. One baseball source, who asked not to be identified, said that the statement "was a prelude to what's going to happen in the next couple of days."

John M. Dowd, a trial lawyer with the Washington firm of Heron, Burchette, Ruckert and Rothwell, is leading the investigation as special counsel to the commissioner. Dowd did not return a telephone message left with his office.

Baseball personnel are prohibited from betting on baseball games, but they are allowed to make legal bets at horse racing tracks, a common pastime for baseball players and managers.

"Sure I go to the racetracks," Rose has said. "I own a couple of thoroughbreds. But I never patronize racetracks like some guys when I'm supposed to be at the baseball park, only on off days."

Rose has denied reports that he was among a group that shared winning pick six tickets worth \$265,669.20 at Turfway Park in Florence, Kentucky, on Jan. 25. Arnold Metz, a friend of Rose's, signed for the winning tickets, reports said.

Rose was suspended for 30 days last year for bumping umpire Dave Pallone at Riverfront Stadium on April 30, the longest suspension given a manager in 41 years.

Several managers and baseball officials said they thought the penalty was excessive and Giamatti was criticized for the decision.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Holland beats N. Korea in pool match

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Holland scored a 3-1 victory over North Korea in a C pool World Ice hockey championship match late Monday in Sydney. Tony Collard, Fred Homburg and Antoine Geesink scored for Holland, while So Chang Gwi was on target for South Korea. In a match played earlier Monday, China and Bulgaria drew 3-3.

S. Arabia beats North Yemen 1-0

SAN'A (AP) — Ahmed Jameel scored off a second half corner kick to give Saudi Arabia a 1-0 win against North Yemen Monday in World Cup qualifying play. The two sides were 0-0 at half-time. A capacity crowd at the Al-Thawra stadium watched a lackluster match that was mostly restricted to a midfield struggle with few attacks launched by either side. Ahmed Jameel shot in the 77th off a swerving corner kick from Mohammed Jawad, easily beating Yemen goalkeeper Amin Al Conaini. Saudi now leads the West Asia group 11 with four points from two games. Last week the Saudis beat Syria 5-4. Syria, which beat North Yemen 1-0 on March 10, has two points from two matches, while the Yemenis have still to win a point. Bahrain, the fourth team in the group, has withdrawn from the competition, citing technical reasons.

Thousands of fans line up to see Maradona

MUNICH, West Germany (AP) — Diego Maradona's imminent visit to Munich is creating a soccer fever that drew 5,000 fans to the Don Office Monday as Bayern Munich began selling tickets for its UEFA Cup semifinal game against Napoli. "We've never seen anything like this," Bayern spokesman Markus Hoerwicz said of the run on the tickets for the game. "It's crazy." Maradona, the Argentine world cup star, is the captain of Napoli. The fans began gathering in the early morning hours and created a 600-metre long line in front of Bayern's club house. Bayern expects a sell-out crowd of 72,000 at Munich's Olympic stadium for the match April 19, the return leg of the semifinal tie. The first leg is on April 5 in Naples. Including tickets, television rights and advertising, Bayern expects revenues of 3 million marks (\$1.6 million) from the game, club officials said.

Kelly, defeats Richards, retains NABF crown

INGLEWOOD, California (AP) — Defending champion Berrick Kelly used flurries and combinations to score an eighth round knockout Monday over Derwin Richards to retain the North American Boxing Federation welterweight crown. Kelly, of the United States, held an advantage throughout the scheduled 12-round bout with quick moves that confused the 21-year-old Richards, also of the United States. Referee Lou Filippo stopped the contest at 2:15 of the eighth round as Richards was unable to ward off his 28-year old opponent's punches. Both boxers weighed 147 pounds. Kelly, who was expected to meet a difficult challenge from the NABF's no. 10 contender, raised his record to 23-1-2, with eight knockouts.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This full moon, along with favorable aspects, can energize relationships, produce optimism, and lower inhibitions. Enjoy the good times but don't look for anything permanent.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) After trying all day to get things moving, you may still be disappointed with the results. Accept things as they are and try not to push too hard.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Stop blaming yourself when things do not work out right. Live life for yourself. Your charms always win out in the end.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) It is a high energy day. You are in a positive mood that others may not want to, or cannot, keep up with. Remember the game at home.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Discreet handling of financial affairs has brought improvement. Your psychic abilities can sense trends that work.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 23) You may be dogged by a conflict of ideas and interruptions. It is a struggle to keep moving in an orderly way. Accept changes.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 23) Maintaining a high profile at the workplace is wise. You will get further recognition if you push your own ideas more.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 to Oct. 23) Budget balancing is back in the picture. A secretive person will open up their feelings to you. Take action.

THE STARS IMPEL: They do not come! What you make of your life is largely up to you! © 1989, McNaught Synd.

THE Daily Crossword by S.E. Wilkinson

ACROSS

- Eng. house garden
- Artie or Irvin
- Confident
- Vietnam city
- Individually
- His Merrill
- Manifest
- Certain sax
- Huff
- Attar
- Feature
- "Little wine" (Bible)
- See god
- Pull up
- Enthusiastic
- Necessary:
- Actor Leibman
- Capital of Manche
- Go off
- Account account
- Ger. river
- Malign
- "Baby Struck"
- portray
- Cat and dog
- Before before
- Enne
- Whiz?
- Masticate
- Poker stake
- Zodiac sign
- Senior
- member
- Check
- Olio
- With ease
- Joelp Braz
- Informed
- Expression
- "Jolly good fellow"
- Jeopardy
- Edged
- QED word
- Railway

DOWN

- Out up
- Talk wildly
- Basut
- Jokingly
- Early Roman emperor
- Resistance
- Making believe
- Uncut
- Bank savings: abbr.
- Rail
- Oneness
- Photo finish
- Nut part
- Push on
- Hermit or king
- Time piece?
- Anil
- Pizzaz
- Make tea
- Head line?
- Corner
- Aril
- Bird sound
- Duplicating machine
- Reply
- Pile
- Send a wire
- "Now — time for..."
- Make do
- "girl"
- "— boom— do-ay!"
- Novelist
- Lawrence of TV
- Hankering

Heysel Stadium trial draws to close

Hearings over, verdicts pending

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The Heysel soccer riots trial ended Monday and a three-judge panel is expected to rule April 28 whether two dozen Britons are guilty in the deaths of 39 fans at the 1985 European Champions' Cup final.

The British fans are charged with involuntary manslaughter for allegedly instigating Europe's worst soccer riots yet and face up to 10 years in prison.

Two Belgian police officials and a former chairman of the Belgian Soccer Federation face lesser charges for badly organizing security at the match.

Monday's closing arguments ended over five months of hearings to find out what blame the suspects had in the riots at Heysel Stadium prior to the May 29, 1985, final between Liverpool and Juventus Turin of Italy.

"All the cards are on the table" for the judges to make their final decision, said public prosecutor Pierre Erauw.

The verdict is expected April 28.

Amid the long and often repetitive court sessions, Erauw stood out when he said Jan. 18

the two British suspects should be acquitted for lack of proof while evidence against eight others was inconclusive.

For those who should be convicted he called for prison terms of only up to four years, far less than the maximum penalty.

But the three Belgians facing trial could not count on Erauw's leniency, he said. They face up to two years imprisonment.

Belgian authorities asked the extradition of 26 Britons, and Britain, determined to stamp out the phenomenon of hooliganism that has dented its reputation in Europe, complied in September 1987.

Their extradition requests were based on videotapes and pictures of the riots. They showed British fans tearing down a flimsy fence separating them from their Italian fans in the old stands of the Heysel Stadium.

They invaded the stand, causing a panic during which the victims were trampled and crushed to death as they tried to flee the violence.

In addition to the 39 deaths, more than 500 fans were injured.

After their extradition, the suspects were soon released to await trial as the legal preparation for the complicated case dragged on.

Most were back in court on Oct. 17, 1988, when the trial opened in earnest. Two suspects have not attended the trial because they are imprisoned in Britain on unrelated matters.

The proceedings opened amid a blaze of publicity but the public

soon lost its appetite for the technical discussions and procedural issues. What was at first seen as a trial of soccer hooliganism soon became a tardy legalistic process that dragged on without drama.

Soon after the trial opened, the Britons returned home and came back only sporadically for the sessions that immediately concerned them.

Student games still seeking venue

BRUSSELS (R) — Kiev in the Soviet Union and West Germany's Duisburg emerged Monday as the only remaining candidates to host this year's world student games. Roch Campana, secretary-general of the international university sports federation (FISU), said Kiev would announce in the next few days whether it was able to accept the games, scheduled for August 19-30. If Kiev backs out the games will go to Duisburg — though with a drastically curtailed programme. "Duisburg can organise only athletics, rowing, fencing and men's basketball," Campana said. "It's really an emergency programme. They are trying to help us out." Organisers have had problems finding an alternative site since Brazil's Sao Paulo, originally awarded the games, was dropped because of financial and organisational problems. Other cities canvassed to host the games instead of Sao Paulo included Seoul, Pyongyang, Casablanca, Zagreb and several university towns in the United States, Campana said.

Galatasaray want 'home' match at Izmir

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey's Galatasaray, banned from home because of crowd trouble, hope to play next month's European Cup soccer semifinal "home" leg against Romania's Steaua Bucharest in Izmir, a club official said Monday.

In Geneva, a European Football Union (UEFA) official said there would be no objection to any venue in Turkey provided it was at least 300 kilometres from Istanbul, though it would require UEFA's formal approval. The Aegean city of Izmir is 600 kilometres to the southwest.

Galatasaray were ordered by the UEFA to play "home" games at least 300 kilometres away following crowd trouble in the second round tie with Switzerland's Neuchatel Xamax last November.

Galatasaray club official Erol Vandioglu said: "We want to play in Izmir because the stadium is the best equipped in Turkey and can hold 70,000 people."

"Our choice of Izmir depends on UEFA approval. They may reject Izmir if they think sufficient security measures cannot be implemented," he noted.

But UEFA spokeswoman Suzanne Orth said security was the responsibility of Galatasaray. UEFA would not inspect the stadium.

She said Izmir had previously staged internationals without a problem.

"If they want to play in Izmir they need our formal approval," she added.

Orth said Galatasaray had been refused permission to stage the April 19 semifinal leg in Cologne.

One-legged climber to tackle Everest — 'blocks aren't physical'

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — A disabled U.S. climber was to leave Katmandu Tuesday in an attempt to be the first person with only one foot to conquer Mount Everest.

Whittaker lost his right foot in a car accident 10 years ago and is equipped with a high-tech artificial foot.

Before his injury Whittaker was an outdoor guide for white water rafting, rock climbing and mountaineering. Always a keen mountaineer, Whittaker said he accepted eagerly when one of the expedition's leaders, Karen Fellerhoff, invited him to join the expedition.

"I was very excited at the idea, as after my injury I had given up all hopes of climbing in the massive Himalayan ranges," he said. "I realised this is my chance of a

lifetime. I thought that lightning does not strike twice in the same place.

The group of 14 includes six U.S. Alpinists — four men and two women — two Swedes, two Belgians, two Britons and two New Zealanders. All are experienced mountaineers.

The team is taking the traditional southeast ridge route pioneered by Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay in their first conquest of Everest 35 years ago. Hillary is now New Zealand's ambassador to India and Nepal based in New Delhi.

His son Peter Hillary, 34, is making his third assault on Everest as a member of Fellerhoff's expedition. His previous tries ended in failure.

Cyclist banned for illicit metabolism

PARIS (R) — Cyril Sabatier has everything it takes to become France's next Bernard Hinault — plus a teenage metabolism which puts him on a permanent natural high.

Last June, at the age of 16 years 11 months, Sabatier became the youngest winner of the French junior national cycling championships.

But when the results of mandatory dope tests came through a month later his level of testosterone, an anabolic hormone banned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), was way too high.

Sabatier, widely regarded as France's best cycling prospect since five-times Tour De France winner Hinault, had apparently become, in the words of one newspaper, "the youngest doped-in the history of sport."

He received a six-month competition ban, a 1,200-franc (\$200)

fine and had his champion's Jersey taken away.

However, his family, who use only natural, homeopathic medicines and take special care over young Cyril's diet, did not believe for a minute that he used dope.

His father Jacques, a former amateur cyclist who works as a road-sweeper in the southern city of Nîmes, went to the best doctors he could afford to see what was wrong.

He even went to France's highest administrative court, the council of state, which appointed three specialists to look into the case.

Gradually, a possible answer came out. Cyril was naturally doped. Although the body normally produces testosterone, he produced much more than his fair share because of a hormonal imbalance caused by puberty.

Cyril is, officially, permanently

doped," Bertrand said.

Alerted to the problem by Sabatier's father, France's sports ministry sent a secret report to the IOC medical commission, which will consider the case at a meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, in April.

"We will do everything in our power to try to establish the truth and eventually to examine the precedents which specialists could submit to us about hormonal anomalies in young athletes," Prince Alexandre De Merode, IOC Medical Commission President, told the sports daily L'Esquive.

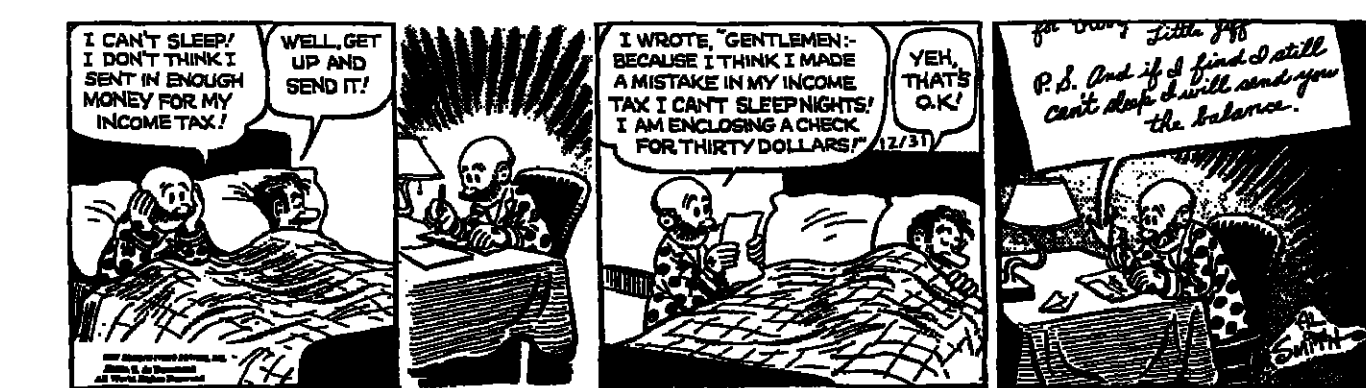
In the meantime, Cyril is still dreaming of getting back his winner's jersey.

"It has to be done quickly. The French title will be up again in June. Cyril would like to wear the winner's jersey for two or three weeks at least," Bertrand said.

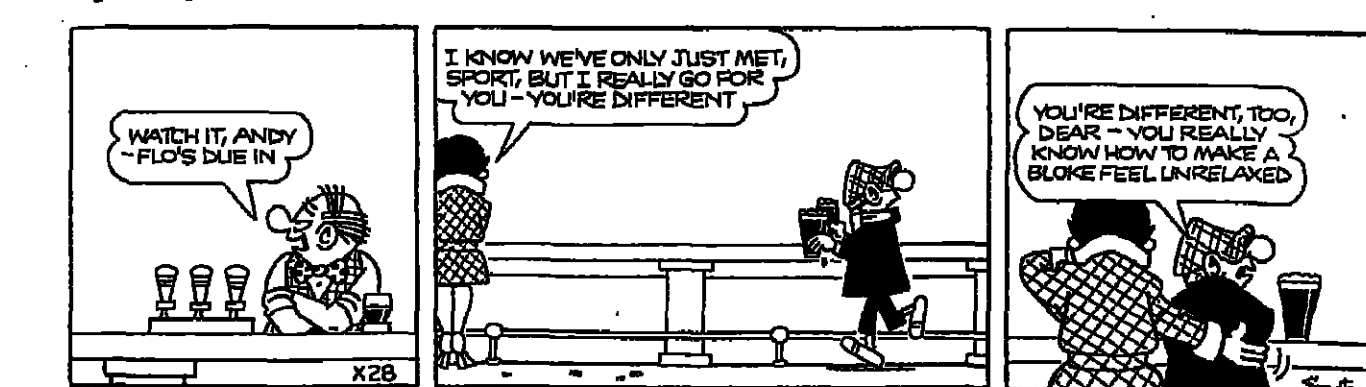
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

HARRIS 3-15

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PORRI

LOGAT

VERYUP

BURTAN

HE WAS SO LAZY HE DIDN'T GIVE A RAP, EVEN WHEN THIS DID.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DRONE CREEK KERNEL ADRIFT

Answer: The fear that relatives are coming to stay — "KIN DREAD" (clined)

Third World countries push for tougher control measures in agreement

Nations clash in toxic waste talks

BASEL (AP) — Officials from 111 countries negotiating a U.N. treaty for controlling international traffic in dangerous waste sought ways Tuesday to break a deadlock over last-minute African demands for tougher language.

Alain Clerc, a Swiss environmental official with a leading mediating role in the talks, said he believed a consensus could be found in overtime night meetings and the draft convention opened for signing Wednesday as scheduled.

The Africans' moves, which came on the conference's first day Monday, put them at odds with industrialised countries.

Among the stumbling blocks Tuesday was that the 52 African

delegates were divided among themselves over the proposed amendments, Clerc told reporters.

African delegates and a small group of negotiators, including conference President Flavio Coti, Switzerland's interior minister, struggled to find a procedural solution for handling the draft changes.

Clerc dismissed suggestions that the high-level conference had been called too hastily.

Many African countries as well as all Asian and Latin American nations support the draft treaty, he said.

Hard-line amendments were put forth by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which in the past has termed waste dumping by industrialised countries a crime against Africa and had called for a complete ban before announcing readiness to negotiate.

One new proposal appears to put the responsibility for managing waste "in an environmentally sound manner" only on countries producing it.

Other suggested amendments would strengthen monitoring of the treaty, including a role for the

OAU.

The conference, which drew 50 ministers, was originally intended to lead to quick approval of the final treaty draft.

Experts completed the 51-page text only Monday, delaying the start of the conference. A treaty annex lists categories of dangerous substances and other technical details.

Mali's Environment Minister Morifing Kone, speaking for the OAU, charged Monday that industrialised countries continue to treat Africa as a dumping ground for dangerous wastes.

In a message read out at the opening session, he said that Africa could not sign a convention "unless we are sure our

interests are safeguarded."

Some African countries are believed to be holding out for a ban on dangerous shipments from industrialised to developing countries.

Greenpeace, the international environmental group, Monday renewed its criticism of the treaty's lack of a ban.

A Greenpeace statement called the proposed convention weak noting it did not include radioactive wastes and allowed signatory countries to have waste trade pacts with non-signatories.

The draft treaty formally gives all countries the right to refuse imports of hazardous wastes and pledges exporters to provide full details of all intended shipments.

Hawke publicly, tearfully bares his soul

SYDNEY (R) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, with tears in his eyes, has confessed to being unfaithful to his wife, Hazel.

Hawke's admission in a pre-recorded television interview, made available to Reuters, is to be broadcast by the commercial Channel Seven network Tuesday night.

"You have also been accused of being a womaniser. What do they mean by womaniser," the interviewer asked.

"They mean I was unfaithful to my wife," the prime minister said.

"Is that true?", he was asked.

"Yes," Hawke said, but added that his infidelity had stopped.

"She understood that it was

part of a pretty volatile, exuberant character, and she knew my love for her had never changed," said the 58-year-old prime minister, who was a hard-drinking trade union chief in his younger days.

"I have always loved Hazel and always will," he said. Hawke is seeking an unprecedented fourth term of national leadership for his Labour Party in elections expected later this year.

He and Hazel, who recently underwent a facelift operation, started going out together at the age of 17, more than 40 years ago. "I guess there are not many women who would have put up with me all that time," Hawke said.

It was not the first time Hawke publicly bared his soul

since he became prime minister six years ago.

In 1984, he broke down and cried during a televised news conference about drug abuse. Mrs. Hawke later revealed their daughter and son-in-law had been heroin addicts.

Hawke said his infidelity, like his heavy drinking, was now behind him.

He said he had never been an alcoholic in the sense that he could not work, but said it came upon him that he had a drinking problem "one night when I was having a wee as a matter of fact, not a time I normally get into profound things."

"But it was getting to the stage where at the end of the day I was looking forward too

much to a drink. I thought that was pretty unintelligent." Hawke gave up alcohol around the time he entered parliament in 1980.

Mrs. Hawke, who has been married to Hawke for 33 years, has not commented on her husband's revelations. They have three children.

Hawke said he supported his wife's decision to have the facelift operation, which made headline news in the Australian press. "She is remarkably well preserved without the operation," he said.

Some of his political opponents have dismissed Hawke's latest confessions as a political gimmick. Opposition leader John Howard refused to comment.



Bob Hawke

Chernobyl cloud still looms large

MOSCOW (AP) — Almost a quarter-million Soviets are living on land so contaminated by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster that they must receive special food supplies to avoid overexposure to radiation, Pravda said Monday.

The Communist Party daily printed maps showing contaminated areas of Byelorussia, the Ukraine and the Russian republics, in response to readers' complaints that they still did not have full information about the level of contamination almost three years after the accident.

On April 26, 1986, an explosion and fire at the Chernobyl nuclear power station sent a radioactive cloud over much of Europe. At least 31 people died. Pravda also printed a commentary by science Editor V. Gubarev, who criticised officials for trying to duck public concern

about the safety of nuclear power.

"Yes, it is impossible to get around using nuclear power stations, however, why then are they proposed for heavily populated or seismic zones?" Gubarev asked. "Why is the quality of construction so low, and why does so much defective equipment arrive at nuclear plants? And, finally, what is the course of this fear before a public which rightly demands a wide debate of every proposed nuclear power station?"

Yuri Izrael, chairman of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology, said that with decontamination efforts and a supply of food brought into the area, those on the lands contaminated by cesium 137 can live safely without exceeding radiation limits set by the government.



Boris Yeltsin

Newspaper gives Yeltsin coverage

MOSCOW (R) — The Moscow Communist Party newspaper, accused of bias against Kremlin rebel Boris Yeltsin, printed his election programme Tuesday alongside that of his officially-backed opponent.

Yeltsin, under investigation for allegedly deviating from the party line during the campaign, was scheduled to meet workers at Moscow's Zil car plant, managed by his opponent in next Sunday's voting, Yevgeny Brakov.

Leading scientists were, meanwhile, electing the representatives of the Academy of Sciences to the Soviet parliament amid criticism that reform-minded academics had been excluded from the ballot.

Human Rights Activist Andrei Sakharov had pleaded Monday for a second vote.

Moskovskaya Pravda, criticised by Yeltsin's supporters, prominently displayed his programme side by side with Brakov's.

It included Yeltsin's campaign call for an end to privileges for party elite such as special food stores, medical care and limousines.

But two of the most sensitive points of his campaign were omitted — a call for a multi-party system to be discussed in the Soviet press and a demand for the Communist Party to be subject to parliamentary control.

His stand on those issues is under investigation by a commission set up by the party Central Committee last week to determine whether Yeltsin has strayed from the party line.

Yeltsin, ousted as Moscow party chief in 1987 for saying reforms were proceeding too slowly, has accused the Moscow party of throwing its weight behind Brakov in the contest for the all-Moscow seat.

Yeltsin told a meeting Monday that the Moscow party committee and higher officials were increasing pressure to prevent him from winning in the election — the first offering Soviet voters a choice of candidates.

An unprecedented march through the centre of the capital at the weekend denounced both the investigation into Yeltsin and Moskovskaya Pravda, which had previously ignored his campaign.

Police reject IRA mole idea in killings

DUBLIN (R) — British and Irish police on Tuesday rejected speculation that an information tip-off off Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas who killed two Northern Ireland policemen on an isolated border road.

Detectives on both sides of the border fear the officers, the most senior policemen killed in Northern Ireland's 20-year-old conflict, may have been tailed in their unmarked car or police radios could have been bugged.

The apparent security leak was a major blow in the two forces' joint fight against IRA guerrillas who are battling to oust Britain from the north.

But both Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey and Britain's Northern Ireland Minister Tom King stressed that the double shooting would not stifle cross-border cooperation.

The two officers drove south on Monday for an impromptu meeting in Dundalk with Irish police officers to discuss a spate of recent IRA bomb attacks on the Dublin-Belfast rail line.

"Even the Garda (Irish police) don't know what way they would be going. There were no bombs, so it wasn't prepared before-

hand," a Northern Ireland police spokesman said.

"The IRA must have been using their radios and they set up the attack after seeing the men drive into Dundalk police station."

Patrick McCullough, President of Northern Ireland's Superintendents Association, said there was not "A shred of evidence" that an IRA mole had set up the killings.

"We have the greatest confidence in our own force and indeed in the forces of the Republic of Ireland," he said in a television interview.

Senior Irish police officers also dismissed suggestions of a "mole" within their ranks. Their inquiry may focus on the IRA possibly penetrating radio communication links or setting up a sophisticated intelligence network for tailing police.

Haughey condemned the killings. "Every possible cooperation will be extended to the Northern authorities to ensure that those responsible are apprehended and brought to justice," he said in a statement.

King said the attack was an IRA bid to undermine Anglo-Irish cooperation.

Pan Am crash stirs controversy in London

LONDON (R) — Britain's opposition Labour Party accused the government Monday of covering up errors in the way it handled warnings to airlines before a Pan Am jet blew up over Scotland.

Labour Transport spokesman John Prescott was addressing parliament after speaker Bernard Weatherill, who presides over sittings in the House of Commons, refused to grant time for an emergency debate on the way warnings were handled.

"The Commons will not tolerate the denial of a debate on the importance of airport security," Prescott said. "If not given, it will only feed the view that a cover-up is now being conducted by the government."

Labour has accused Transport Secretary Paul Channon of failing to pass on to airlines detailed intelligence warnings about a bomb hidden in a radio-cassette player until after the Lockerbie disaster, in which 270 people were killed.

The Boeing 747, flying from London to New York, was blown up Dec. 21 over the Scottish town of Lockerbie by plastic explosive concealed in a radio-cassette recorder.

A Transport Department spokesman said Sunday that a warning letter dated Dec. 19 was not posted until the new year because accompanying colour photographs of a suspect radio-cassette had to be prepared.

Pan Am has said the letter did not arrive until Jan. 17. The disclosure about when the letter was dispatched fired fresh opposition demands for a statement by Channon or a public inquiry. Channon has minimised

the importance of the letter in question, saying it merely elaborated on a previous warning.

Channon has said he cannot disclose certain details about the crash for security reasons.

Sources close to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said she had complete confidence in Channon and was disgusted at suggestions he had not acted properly.

The transport secretary pulled out of a London conference on airport congestion at short notice Monday due to what his office said was "pressure of work."

The department sent a telex message suggesting further steps to tighten airport security.

"In view of the high and continuing risk from electronic devices, the department has today by telex issued a further reminder to airports and airlines, drawing attention to the guidance issued earlier and suggesting some further steps that should be taken," a spokesman said.

He said the department was told that more bombs of the same type could be in circulation. He declined to comment on a report saying West German police had said up to three more cassette-recorder bombs had been built.

The London Evening Standard newspaper linked the new warning to West German police's discovery last October of a Toshiba cassette player packed with Semtex plastic explosive and linked to a detonator designed to explode at high altitude.

In Washington, a congressional committee report, prompted by the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, said government warnings to airlines were sometimes dangerously inaccurate.



Alfredo Cristiani of the extreme rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA), the expected winner of Sunday's presidential elections.

Washington praises El Salvador election

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States Monday praised El Salvador's presidential election and said it would support the winner, but at least 250 people were arrested in protests in U.S. cities against the vote and U.S. policy in the Central American nation.

Official results released Monday indicated that businessman Alfredo Cristiani of the extreme rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) was set to become the next Salvadoran president, with 53 per cent of the vote in Sunday's violence-plagued poll.

"These elections are the most recent manifestation of the Salvadoran people's desire for a durable democratic system," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

"The leader of the U.S. observer delegation, Senator (Mitch) McConnell (Republican of Kentucky), characterised the election as free and fair... despite FMLN (guerrilla) intimidation... we understand that some 55 to 60 per cent of registered voters turned out. The Salvadoran people braved violence and terror... to participate."

Redman said the United States would support the winner because the election was democratic, but warned U.S. ties to the new government would depend on its human rights performance and respect for democracy.

He said President Jose Napoleon Duarte had made progress in these areas.

Duarte, currently undergoing chemotherapy for liver cancer, maintained close ties with

Washington, building bipartisan U.S. congressional support for his policies and attracting more than \$1 million a day of U.S. aid to El Salvador, the second highest per capita figure after Israel.

"We continue to press for democracy and human rights improvements in that country and we'll just have to wait and see what kind of actions we get from the new government," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said in a separate briefing.

ARENA has been linked in the past with death squad killings of political opponents.

Sunday's elections were overshadowed by clashes between rebels and security forces and the killings of three journalists. The military reported 38 people killed and the rebels said they killed or wounded 150 government troops.

Asked about reports that much of the violence was caused by the Salvadoran military, Fitzwater said: "Most of the violence that we have seen documented is from the left, from the guerrilla factions."

At least 250 people were arrested in Washington, New York and San Francisco in Monday's protests against U.S. aid to El Salvador and an election process they asserted was unfair.

Nine policemen were injured and 122 people arrested in New York where demonstrators, some dressed as Salvadoran "death squad" members carrying out mock executions, blocked entrances to a federal office building.

Another 80 were arrested by police in riot gear at the San Francisco federal building.

Korean bomber wants punishment

SEOUL (AP) — A confessed North Korean agent told a court Tuesday she wanted to be punished for planting a bomb that destroyed a South Korean airliner in 1987, killing all 115 people on board.

Kim Hyon-Hui said during the second hearing at the Seoul district court on her case that she did not believe she had any right to a defence and that she would tell the court everything. Kim, who could face the death sentence, said she hoped her death would ease the suffering of the victim's relatives.

"It would be fortunate if my death would help reduce their sorrow and pain," she said in a hushed voice.

Hundreds of riot police and security agents ringed the court to prevent protests by angry relatives of the victims or a possible North Korean attack. About 10 relatives who tried to force their way into the court scuffled with police.

About 30 relatives who were allowed into the courtroom yelled threats and insults at Kim and the hearing was slowed by frequent interruptions. Weeping relatives shouted obscenities and one woman buried a shoe that missed Kim by several metres.

"Let's kill her," yelled a distraught relative.

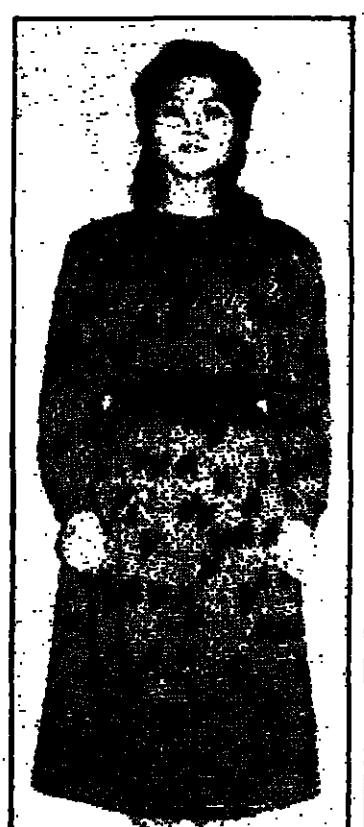
The hearing was interrupted several times by the outbursts until about 25 of the relatives marched out in protest.

Prosecutors are expected to ask for the death sentence, but government officials have indicated that Kim will be pardoned because they say she was duped by North Korea and has repented.

Kim's confession and the trial has been a major propaganda victory for South Korea in its struggle with the communist North for supremacy on the divided Korean peninsula.

Kim repeated at the first court hearing March 7 her earlier confession that she planted a bomb on the Korean Air Boeing 707 that disappeared Nov. 29, 1987, over the Andaman Sea near the coast of Burma on a flight from Iraq to Seoul. No survivors were found.

In reply to a question Tuesday,



Kim Hyon-Hui

Kim said she acted automatically when she placed the bomb on the plane and had no second thought about her action. "I did what I was trained to do," she said.

Kim has said she was acting on the orders of top North Korean leaders who hoped to sabotage the 1988 Olympic games held in Seoul.

North Korea has denied any involvement in the incident. In reply to questions, Kim said she had confessed after being brought to South Korea and realising she had been duped about true conditions in the South. She described the North as hellish police state.

In a confession on South Korean television in January 1988, Kim said she and her elderly companion flew on the flight from Baghdad to Abu Dhabi where they got off. She said they left a powerful bomb on the plane disguised as a radio and a bottle of liquor.

COLUMN

'Last Emperor' wins British film award

LONDON (R) — "The Last Emperor" by Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci gained top honours at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Awards Sunday. The movie about Pu Yi's fall from emperor to gardener was named best film. Luis Malle was voted best director for his "Au Revoir les Enfants," an account of his childhood Jewish friends during the Nazi occupation of France. The offbeat comedy "A Fish Called Wanda" picked up two British film "Oscars." John Cleese was voted best actor and co-star Michael Palin best supporting actor. Maggie Smith was judged best actress for her role as the unhappy spinster in "The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne."

Traffic jams are an ancient problem

ROME (ANSA) — Anyone who thinks that traffic and pollution are exclusively modern age phenomena will have to think again. In Rome in the first century B.C. heavy waggons and carts clogged the streets, carriages clattered and two-horse chariots charged at such a speed that they threatened the lives of pedestrians. Ancient Romans were experts in dealing with traffic. In the course of history they built 140 thousand kilometres of roads and were not upset in the slightest when Julius Caesar issued the "Lex Julia Municipalis" in 45 B.C. when the traffic problem had become critical. It was the first comprehensive attempt to regulate the flow of road traffic. Since heavy transport carts obstructed the way and made too much noise they were forbidden within the city from dawn to dusk. The amount of traffic reached such proportions and became so chaotic that it was decided that no ladies, not even those from high ranking patrician families, were allowed to use carriages. In other words the era of access permits for the city centre dates far back. The only categories allowed to enter the city in a two-wheeled or four-wheeled vehicle were the vestal virgins and the Flamen priests, custodians of the sacred fire, the "Rex Sacrorum", the high priest who led all ceremonies and processions, magistrates and the most important military commanders.

Bergamot, artichoke for beauty

ROME (ANSA) — The interest of cosmetic science for natural products has focused attention on two typical Mediterranean plants which abound in Italy: The Bergamot and the Artichoke. The bergamot, a name given to a small tree of the rue family which has flourished in Italy from the beginning of the 19th century, grows mainly along the Ionian coastline, while the artichoke is reaped in some areas of the south as many as four times a year. Both crops have reached a new popularity thanks to their use in natural cosmetics. Interest in the environment and ecology has spread to the cosmetics industry, which is enthusiastically trying to make use of natural products in creams, potions and lotions meant to cure, repair and prevent damages to the bodies and faces of clients. The artichoke, one of the most frequently used ingredients in natural cosmetics, derives its botanical name "Cynara" from a Greek nymph Legend. The nymph, beautiful but capricious, drove Zeus, father of the gods, to turn her into a thorny but useful plant. In fact, the leaves and stalk of the artichoke are extremely tasty, and can also be used to keep the skin velvety and hair shiny.

The weather at major world capitals & cities

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	02	36	07 45 Cloudy
ATHENS	09	48	21 70 Cloudy
BANGKOK	17	82	23 73 Clear
BARRAN	24	75	33 81 Clear
Buenos Aires	18	64	25 77 Clear
CAIRO	13	55	28 82 Clear
CHICAGO	-01	31	08 38 Clear
COPENHAGEN	04	38	10 50 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	06	43	12 88 Rain
GENEVA	02	29	13 88 Clear
HONG KONG	18	84	21 70 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	06	43	16 61 Clear
LONDON	03	37	10 50 Rain
LOS ANGELES	13	56	28 83 Clear
MADRID	02	35	14 57 Clear
MECCA	17	83	33 91 Clear
MIAMI	22	72	26 77 Cloudy
MONTREAL	-10	14	00 32 Cloudy
MOSCOW	-01	30	04 39 Clear
NEW DELHI	18	84	31 88 Clear
NEW YORK	01	30	08 42 Cloudy
PARIS	05	41	11 52 Cloudy
ROME	06	46	22 70 Cloudy
TOKYO	06	43	14 57 Clear



Pamella Bordes is an ex-beauty queen

Jeffrey M. S.